

The Blind Man.



Lazarillo.

Here is *Lazarillo's* birth and life,
His wily feats and honest wife,
With his seven masters shall you find,
Expressing Spanyards in their kind

Trachely.
THE
PLEASANT
HISTORY OF
LAZARILLO de TORMES

a Spaniard, wherein is contained
his marvellous deeds and life.

With the strange adventures
happened to him, in the service
of sundry Masters.

Drawne out of Spanish by *David*
Romland of Anglesy.

The Third Edition, corrected and amended.

Accurado, Gluido.

NEW YORK: PUBLISHED BY J. H. MASON, 10 NASSAU ST.

LONDON,
Printed by E.G. for *William Leake*, and are
to be sold at his shop in Chancery
Lane, neere the Rolls. 1639.



TO THE
HONOVABLE
Sir *Charles Stanhope*,
Knight of the Bath, Heyre
Apparant to the right Honourable,
John Lord Stanhope, one of his
Majesties most honourable
Privie Countell.

SIR,



Azarillo de Tor-
mes, (accor-
ding to his
Masters pro-
fession) hath beene a
A 3 great

The Epistle

great while, though to
small purpose, a begger
in Spain; A disease, w^{ch}
in respect of the heate
of the Climate, & the
coldnes of charity, is
there holden incurable;
in hope to better
his fortunes here among
vs (where such cures are
more ordinary :) He is,
after some vnnecessary
stayes in France, and
much labor, in learning
to speak our English, ar-

Dedicatorie.

rived vpon these coasts:
where falling into my
hands, & being affrayd
of everie Vnder-Officer,
hee hath emboldened
himselſe (vpon the
frequent profession of
mine humble and heartie
desires, to doe your
Honor service) to make
me his unworthy Me-
diator, that vnder your
honourable protection
and allowance, hee may
still beg for approbation,

A 4 amongst

The Epistle, &c.

amongst your noble
friends, *Cum privilegio.*
Which earnest suit of
his owne conception,
is and shall be (as far as
may stand with my
duty) enforced and se-
conded by

*Your honours most
humble servant*

Tho. Walkley.



To the right worshipfull, Sir
Thomas Gressam, Knight.



Hen. I had read o-
ver this little Trea-
cise (Right Worship-
full) finding it, for
the number of strange and mer-
ry reports, very recreative and
pleasant: I thought it no labour
evill bestowed, to occupy my
selfe in the translation thereof.
And being moved thereto the
rather, perceiving that in France
many delighted therein, being
turned into their tongue, I fully
deter-

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

determined to bring my former pretence to end. Considering, that besides much mirth, here is also a true description of the nature and disposition of sundry Spaniards. So that by reading hereof, such as have not travelled Spaine, may atwell discern much of the manners & customes of that Country, as those that have there long time continued. And being now finished, I was so bold as to dedicate the fruite of my simple labour unto your Worship, who both for travell, daily conference with divers Nations, and knowledge in all forraine matters, is known to be such an one

as

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as is well able to iudge, whether these reports of little *Lazaro*, be true or not. Wherefore I most humbly beseech your Worship, favourably to accept this poore present, (as offered of one) who wisheth unto you and yours, all health, wealth, long life, with increase of all vertue and worship: Trusting, that after your waighty and important affaires to ease your tedious exercises, you wil recreate your selfe with reading of some pleasant part hereof.

Your worships most humbly to
command, David Rowland.



The Prologue of *Lazaro de Torres*, unto a Gentle-man of Spaine;
which was desirous to understand the discourse of his life.

I Am of opinion, that things so worthy of memory, peradventure never heard of before, ne seen, ought by all reason to come abroad to the sight of many, and not be buried in the endlesse pit of oblivion, there perpetually to be forgotten: for it is possible that those, which shall read this Treatise of my life, may finde some pleasure therein. Wherefore true it is that Plinie recordeth, There is no boock so evill, but hath some goodnesse in it contained: (considering all men taste not a like) that which one man will not eat, another longeth sore for: we see many despise things, which others

The Prologue.

others doe greatly esteeme: Therefore nothing ought to bee broken & cast away, unless it were detestable; but that first diuers men should see the same. & especially being not hurtfull, but rather able, instead of dammage, to yeeld profit and utility. If the world were otherwise, very few would take pen in hand to pleasure one man onely, seeing that they cannot bring their workes to end, without great trauell: And when they have ended their labour, they rightfully desire to be recompensed, and not with mony, but only, that all men with courteous minde, will read and allow their workes, yea, and (if there be cause why) give them praise. For to this end Tully saith, Honour doth maine- taine Art, or cunning. Doe you thinke that the Souldier, that first mounteth on the wall with his ladder, is weary of his life? No surely, the desire of honour encourageth him, so to venture into such danger. So likewise, in Art and
lear-

The Prologue.

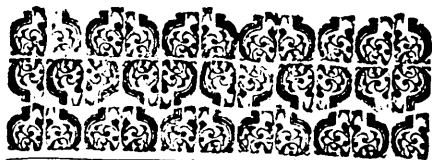
learning, we use to say Master Doctor hath preached well, he is a man that seeketh the health of Soules: But I pray you demand of him, whether he will bee offended, that one shall say, O how diuinely you haue preached Master Doctor! The like happeneth in men of armes as men commonly report. O how such a knight iustled naughtily, and notwithstanding, he hath given his Coat-Armor to a Iester, which commended him for running well, what would hee have given, if hee had said the truth? Wherefore now, that all things passe after such a sort, I confessing my selfe to bee no holier then my neighbours, am content that such as finde any taske in this my grosse stile and novelty, may pleasure and delight themselves therewith: and they may perceiue, how a man liueth, after so many fortunes, dangers, and aduersities.

Therefore now, I beseech your Worship, receiue with willing heart, this
poore

The Prologie.

poore token of my true affection, which should have beene much richer, if power and ability had been equall with desire. And seeing that you have commanded me to write the matter at length, I have thought good, not to begin in the midst of my life, but first to tel you of my birth that all men may have full knowledge of my person; that those that possesse great rents and revenues, may understand what small praise is due unto them, seeing that Fortune hath dealt partially with them: and how much commendation they deserve, which in despite of cruel Fortune, with force and industry, by rowing out of tempestuous seas, have arived to fortunate and happy havens.

Lazaro



Lazaro declareth his
Life, and whose sonne
hee was.



OVR Worship shall understand before all things, that my name is Lazaro de Tormes; sonne of Thome Gonsales, and Antonio Petes, Native of Tesfiores, a Village neare Salamanka: I was borne within the River called Tormes, whereof I tooke my Surname, as hereafter you shall heare: my Father whom God pardon, had the charge of a Mill standing upon that River, wherein he supplied the roome of a Milner about xv. years.

B

It

It fortun'd on a night, my mother being great with Childe was there brought to bed, and then was I borne: therefore now I may truly report the River it selfe, to be the place of my Nativity: and after the time I came to the age of eight yeares, there was laid to my fathers charge, that hee had shamefully cut the seames of mens Sackes that came thither to grinde; wherefore he was taken and imprisoned, and being tormented, he confessed the whole matter, denying nothing wherefore he was persecuted. I trust in God that hee is now in Paradise, seeing that the Gospell doth say, that Blessed are such as confesse their faults. About the same time an army was made against the Turkes, and my father being then banished for the mishap aforesaid, chanced to be one, supplying the roome of a Muliter, under a Knight which went thither,

in

in whose service like a true and faithfull man, he ended his life. My mother being then a comfortlesse widow, after the losse of her deare husband, determined to inhabite among such as were vertuous and honest, to be of that number, and therefore came immediately to this noble Citie, where after that she had hired a little house, shee kept an ordinary table for divers Students; and washed shirts for a company of Horse-keepers, belonging to the Commander of *Magdalena*, by meanes whereof, she had accusation to make often resort unto the stables, where in continuance of time, a blacke Morion, one of Master Commanders men, became to bee familiarly acquainted with her: So that for his part, hee would oftentimes arrive at midnight at our house, and returne againe betimes in the morning, otherwhiles at

B 2 noone

noonetide, demanding at the doore whether my mother had eggs to sell, and so come in pretily without suspicion: At the beginning I was right sorry to see him make repaire thither, being afraide to behold his blacke uncomely visage: but after that I once perceived how onely by his resort our fare was so well amended, I could by no meanes finde in my heart to hate him, but rather beare him good will, rejoycing to see him: for he alwayes brought us home with him good round Cantles of Bread, and pieces of broken Meate, and in the Winter time, Wood to warme us withall. To be short, by his continuall repaire thither, matters went so forward, that my Mother found in good time to bring forth a young Morren, whom I daily plaid withall, and sometimes helped to warme. And I remember very well, that on a time, as my

Step-

Step-father plaid merrily with his young sonne, the little childe perceiving that my Mother and I were white, and his Father blacke as I eat, he ran away for feare to my Mother, and stretching forth his finger, cryed *Mamma* the Bugge: whereat my blacke step-father would laugh, and say, a Whoreson, art thou afraid of thy Father? Although I was then but young, I right well marked the Childes words, and said to my selfe, there are many such in the world, which doe abhorre and flee from others, because they cannot see what shape they have themselves. Within a while after, it pleased fortune, that the daily conversation of *Aide* (for so was my Fathers name) came to the eares of him that was Steward to Master Commander, who made such streight inquiry, that hee was advertised how the blacke Morren did use to steale halfe

B 3

the

the Provender that was allowed the Horses, yea, horse-coverings, sheets and Curry-combes, other-whiles wood, and bran: which things in deed he alwayes said were lost, and when nothing could bee gotten to serve his turne, he would never stick to unshoe the horses, to get some gaine, presenting daily all such gifts to my mother, as a help to bring-up my little blacke brother. Let us never therefore marvell more at those which steale from the poore, nor yet at them which convey from the houses they serve, to present therewith whom they love, in hope to attaine thereby their desired pleasure, seeing that love was able to encourage this poore bondman or slave to doe thus much as I have said, or rather more, which by evident tryall was afterwards proved true: for I being examined of the deed, after much threatning was con-

All was
fish that
came to
the net.

constrained as a childe, for feare, to discover the whole matter, confessing how I had sold certaine horse-shooes to a Smith at my mothers commandement: wherefore my miserable Step-father was by judgement of the Law, as the order is there, whipped and Larded, and to my mother expresse commandement was given upon the usuall paine of an hundreth stripes, no more to enter into the house of the above named Commander, nor yet entertaine into hers, the unfortunate *Zaide*. My sorrowfull mother fearing to throwe the helve after the hatchet, determined by all meanes to keepe their commandement, wherefore she entred into service with those which at that time, dwelt at the ordinary Inne called *Solona*, so to escape danger and to avoyd the dangerous reports of cvill tongues, where shee suffered much

There is
an order
in that
countray
when any
Moore
doth com-
mit any
heynous
offence, to
strip him
naked, and
being
bound
with his
hands and
his knees
together,
to bast him
with hot
drops of
burning
Larde.

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There is
no provi-
sion there
in Inn^{ow} :
for the
guests
must send
abroad in-
to the
cowne, for
all such
vittall as
they need.

sorrow, and there brought up my
blacke brother, untill he was able to
run abroad, and that I being a good
stripling, could goe up and downe
the towne to provide the guests of
Wine, and Candles, and other things
necessary. In this meane time, there
happened a blinde man to come
thither to lodge, who thinking mee
to be a fit man to leade him, desired
my Mother that I might serve him,
wherewith she being right well con-
tent, most earnestly prayed him to
be a good Master unto me, because
I was an honest mans sonne, who in
maintaining the faith of Iesus Christ
against Turkes, dyed in the battell
of *Belves*, and how that shee trusted
in Almighty God, I would proove as
honest a man as he : therefore in any
wise that hee would be carefull over
me, being a fatherlesse Childe. Let
me alone then (answered hee) I will
not use him as a seryant, but as a
sonne.

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sonne. Then in happy time I began
to serve my Old and New Master :
And after we had remained certaine
dayes at *Salamanka*, my blinde Ma-
ster perceiving his gaine there to bee
but small, determined to depart
thence : and a little before our de-
parture, I went to see my Mother :
when I came where shee was, wee
shed both most bitter teares, and shee
gave me her blessing, saying, Now
my deare sonne, I shall see thee no
more, therefore be a good Childe, I
pray God be thy helpe; I doe thanke
the Lord, I have brought thee up
well hitherto, and I have now put
thee to a good Master, from hence-
forth provide for thy selfe, seeing
thar I have done my part. I tooke
my leave and returned in hast to my
Master, which tarried for me, ready
to take his Voyage. So we departed
out of *Salamanka*, and came on our
way as farre as the Bridge, at the en-
trance

trance whereof standeth a beast of Stone, fashioned much like a Bull: as soone as wee came neere it, the blindeman willed me to approach: saying, *Lazaro*, put thine eare to this Bull, and thou shalt heare a terrible noyse within it: as soone as hee had said the word, I was ready like a foole to bow downe my head, to doe as he had commanded; thinking that his words had bene most true: but the traiterous blinde man suspecting how neere it my head was, thrusterh forth his arme upon a foudaine, with such force, that my sore head tooke such a blow against the diuellish Bull, that for the space of three dayes my head felt the paines of his hornes, wherefore hee was right glad and said: Consider now what thou art thou foolish Calfe, thou must understand, that the blinde mans Boy, ought to know one tricke more then the devill himselfe.

selfe. It seemed then immediately that I waked out of simplicity, wherein I had of long time slept (like a childe,) and I said to my selfe, my blinde master hath good reason, it is full time for me to open mine eyes, yea, and to provide and seeke mine owne advantage, considering that I am alone without any helpe. Wee continued on our journey, and within few dayes I came to good knowledge; so hee perceiving what a ready tongue I had, was right glad, and said, neither gold nor silver can I give thee, howbeit, I doe meane to teach thee the way to live, and so certainly he did: for next after God he made me a man, and although hee was blinde, it was hee that gave me light, and that taught mee how to know the world. I rejoyce to declare unto your worship these Childish toyes, that you may see how commendable it is for a man

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man of lowe estate to be brought to authority and exalted, and contrariwise what a shame it is, a man from dignitie and estimation to be pulled downe to wretched misery. But to returne to my blinde Master, and to shew his nature, I assure you, that sith the beginning of the World, God never made Man more deceitfull and crafty: for in his Art and Trade of Living, he farre passed all other: hee could recite by heart a hundred long Prayers and moe, yea, and the life of all holy Saints: at his devotion time hee used such a loud tunable voyce, that it might be heard throughout the Church where hee prayed; and besides all that, hee could counterfet a good devout countenance in praying, without any strange gesture, either with mouth or eye, as other blinde are accustomed to use. I am not able to recite a thousand other manner of wayes which

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which hee had to get Money: hee would make many beleieve that hee had prayers for divers good purposes, as for to make women bring forth children, yea, and to make men to love their Wives, although they had hated them before never so much. He would prognosticate to Women that were with Child, whether they should bring forth a Sonne or a Daughter: in matters of Physicke hee would affirme that *Galen* never knew halfe so much as hee: also for any grieve, the tooth-ache, or any other disease, there was never one complained, but that immediately he would say, doe this, doe that, seeth such an Herbe, take such a Roote: So that by this his continuall practise, he had daily great resort made unto him, (especially of Women) which did faithfully beleieve all that ever hee said: by them hee had great gaine, for he won more

more in a month, then twenty of his occupation did in a whole yeare. Yet for all his daily gaines, you must understand that there was never a man so wretched a niggard. For hee caused me not onely to die for hunger, but also to want whatsoever I needed. And therefore to confesse the troth, if I had not found out meanes to helpe himsele, I had beene buried long since. Wherefore oftentimes I would so prevent him of all his craft, that my portion should proove as good as his: and to bring my matter so to passe, I used wonderfull deceits (whereof I will recite unto you some) although sometimes my practising of them did cost me bitter paines.

This blinde man carried alwayes his bread and his victuall in a little bag of cloth, which was shut at the mouth with an iron buckle, under a miserable lock and key: at the time of

of putting his meate in, and taking it out, he would keepe such straight account, that all the world was not able to deceive him of one crum, and therefore there was no helpe, but that I must needs bee content with that small allowance that hee gave me, which alwayes I was sure to dispatch at two morsels: and as soone as ever he had shut his little locke, he would thinke then, that all were sure, imagining that I had other matters in hand: then would I boldly unrip, and sow up againe the side of his covetous sacke, using daily to lance one of the sides, there to take out not onely bread at mine owne pleasure, but also slices of flesh, and sweet Carbonado's: So that by such meanes, I found convenient time to ease the raging hunger, which hee was cause of.

Moreover, all the money that ever I could convey and steale from him,

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him, I changed alwayes into halfe blanks, and when any man demaunded any prayer, hee had alwayes of ordinary a blanke given him for his hire, and because he could not see, it should be delivered to me: But hee could never so soone put foorth his hand to receive it, but I was as ready to throw it into my mouth, and by quicke exchange, to give the just value of halfe of it, whereat hee would much murmur, knowing by the onely feeling of it what it was, and would say; How in the Devils name chanceth it, that sithence thy comming to me, I received but halfe blanks, and before I had alwayes a whole blanke, and sometimes two? I thinke surely, that thy unluckinesse be cause thereof. From that time forward, hee thought good to shorten his prayers, cutting them off in the middest: wherefore hee commanded mee, that as soone as the

Almes

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Almes-giuer had turned his backe; I should plucke him by the cloke. Then straightwaies changing tune, hee would begin to cry with loud voyce (as blind men vse to doe) who will heare such a deuout prayer, or else the life of some Saint? At dinner or supper time, hee had alwayes before him a little potfull of wine, which oftentimes I would lay hand on, and after two or three kisses send it him secretly home againe: But that happy time continued but a while, for I was wont to leave so little behind me, that he might soone espy the fault, as indeed immediately he did mistrust the whole matter: wherfore he began a new order, not to leaue his wine any more at random, but to avoyd danger, had alwayes his little pot fast by the eare, so to bee sure of his drinke.

Yet notwithstanding, for all this, the Adamant stone had never such

G

verue

Blinde men stand there in Church porches, ready to be hired for money to recite any prayer.

vertue to draw iron to it, as I had to suck up this wine with a long reed, which I had prepared for the purpose: for, as soone as the end of my reede had bene once in, I might well desire him to fill the pot againe. Yet, at the last, the craftie blind-man chanced to feeke me, and being angry, determined to take another way, to place his pot betweene his legs, covering it still with his hand, so to avoide all former dangers: when he had so done, I being accustomed to drinke wine, did long to taste of it, and perceiuing that my reed could then no more preuaile at all, I deuised another kind of fetch, how to make a hole at the bottome of his wine pot, and to stop the same with a litle soft wax, so that at dinner time, making a shew as I were ready to dye for cold, I would creep betweene the blind mans legs, to warme my selfe at his small fire, by

the

the heat whereof, the wax being litle in quantitie, would so melt away, that the wine would issue down into my mouth, freshly and trim: I being sure to gape upward so fast, that one drop should neuer fall beside. So that when my blinde Master would taste of his wine, hee should neuer find drop to quench his thirst, where he would much marvell, cursing and swearing all manner of othes, yea, wishing the pot, & all that was within it, at the Detuill, musing still how his wine should bee so consumed away. Then straightwaies to excuse my selfe, I would say, I trust you will not mistrust me, gentle vncle, seeing that the pot came neuer out of your owne hand. Whereupon then to be well informed of the truth, he began to feeke and to prope the pot over so often, that at last hee found the spring, and at that time assembled quietly the matter, as if

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he had perceiued nothing. The next day I began againe to prepare my selfe after my accustomed sort to take my pleasure of his wine, being ignorant of the euill that should ensue, thinking that my master would neuer haue mistrusted mee about such a matter, wherefore I was merry and carelesse. But my cruell master, perceiuing after what strange sort I receiued those sweet drops of wine, which came forth as a quick spring at his pots bottome, my face bent towards Heauen, mine eyes in manner closed, so to receiue with more delight, and better taste that pleasant liquor, which I thought did preserue my life: the malicious blinde man hauing time of reuengement at his will, lifted vp the sweet and soure pot (as I may say) and with all his force, clapped it so rudely upon my face, that I thought verily Heauen aboue, and all therein

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therein, had fallen upon mee. The cruell blow was such, that it tooke away my senses, it troubled sore my braines, and my face was all cut with peeces of the broken pot; yea, and some of my teeth were then broken, which as yet is seene, wherefore I neuer loued him after, howbeit he cherished me daily: yet for all the false loue & frendship which hee shewed, I perceiued right well how glad he was, that he had so punished mee.

To make me amends, he washed with wine the wounds, which the vnhappy pot had made, and after much laughing sayd, What sayest thou to this my boy, the wine that hath done thee hurt, shall now heale thee againe, and such other merry jests, which I utterly misliked. As soone as I began to recouer, and that my face was in manner healed, I considered with my selfe, how that with

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few more such blowes, the blinde man might quickly bring me to my grave: And therefore determined to shorten his dayes, if I could, which thing I went not about immediatly, but tarried a due time, for mine own safety and advantage.

And whereas afterwards I went about to forget mine anger, and to forgive him the blow, the euill vsage and entertainment which hee daily shewed me, would in no wise consent thereto. For still he tormented me with sore blowes, without any offence, or fault at al. And when any man demanded, why he handled me so cruelly, straightwayes he would up and declare the discourse of his por, saying; Doe you not thinke this childe is some innocent, and alwayes at the end of his tale, these would be his words; Who, vnlesse the Devill himselfe, could have found out such rare pranks; The people

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people would much marvell at my inuention, and blessing themselves, would say unto my masters Punish him, punish him, God will reward you therefore: which thing hee did continually, and would haue done without their bidding: wherefore I daily led him thorow the worst waies I could finde possibly, all for very spite, minding if I could, to do him harme: where I might espy stones or mire, I would even thorow the thickest: and although I could neuer escape dry foot, I was glad with losing one of mine owne eyes; to put out both his that neuer had any. At such times of his sorrowes, to be reuenged, hee would take hold with his nailes, on the hinder part of my head, where with his often pulling, he had left very few haire behind: it would neuer auile mee then to say, that I could finde no better way, nor yet to sweare, how I

He was borne blind.

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did

The Spaniards' Life.

did not leade him that naughty way maliciously, for hee was so subtil, that to my words hee would giue small credit.

But now, because your Worship shall vnderstand, how far his craft did extend, I will declare one chance amongst many, which happened in the time I serued him, wherein he seemeth to giue full vnderstanding of his subtilty: When wee departed out of *Salamanka*, his intent was to come to the City of *Tokdo*, knowing that the people were richer there than in other places, although not so charitable, yet for all that, leaning to his old prouerbe: *More giueth the giu-gard than the naked*, wee tooke our voyage thorow the best villages we could finde, where wee found great gaine and profit, continuing after such sort a certaine time: and where, as wee liked not our entertainment, the third day wee would bee sure to take

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take our leaue, and to end our yeere. It fortuned at the last, that wee arrived at a towne which is called *Almorex*, at such time as they gathered their grapes, where one of the vineyard gaue my master a whole bunch, which by reason of the late time, were more than ripe, so that some were ready to fall from the bunch: wherefore hee could by no meanes carrie it in his bag, by reason it was so moyft. Therefore he determined to make a sumptuous banquet with it, partly because he had no meanes to cary it vvith him, and partly because he thought there with to please mee, which had receiued that day many cruell blowes.

As soone as wee found a valley fit for the purpose, wee sate vs downe, and my master said; *Lazaro* my boy, I will now vse a great liberality towards thee, it is my pleasure, that both of us shall eat friendly together

ther this bunch of grapes, whereof thy part shall bee as much as mine, wee will part it after this sort, thou shalt take one grape, and I another, promising mee faithfully, that thou wilt not take aboue one at a time, and I will doe the like to thee, and so wee will quietly end our bunch, without any fraud or guile on either part.

Vpon that condition we agreed, and began our banquet: but my master belike forgetting his promise, did soon change purpose, for immediately he began to picke the grapes by two & two, thinking peradventure that I would doe the like, as hee might well thinke. Indeed I was not far behinde him, for as soon as I perceived that he had broken the law, I was not content to goe by two and two, as he did, but went before him, taking vp by two & three together, & sometime more, as I was best able.

When

When the bunch was ended, heeooke the stalk in his hand; and wagging his head, said; *Lazaro* thou hast decciued mee, by God thou hast eaten by three and three. I vnterly denied it, and sayd, Indeede, vncle it is not true: why should you think so? Then he like a crafty blinde man answered; I did, perceiue straightwaies how the matter went, for when I began to take vp by two & two, thou neuer didst finde fault, but didst keep silence. I then laughed to my selfe, although I was but young, I considered well his discret consideration.

Now Sir, to auyd long talke, I will leaue a part many matters, as well plesant, as worthy to be noted, which have fortun'd to mee with this my first master. I will only tell what happened a little before I departed: wee came to *Scalona*, a towne of the Dukes, and when wee were at our lodging, hee gaue mee a

peece

The Spaniards Life.

Here they
use few
gridirons
but all spits
& doe roast
over-
thwart the
coles. A
Marevedi,
is the sixth
part of an
English
Penny.

peece of a sausedge to roast, the
which being almost enough, and the
fat dropped and pressed out vpon
thin slices of bread, as the fashion is,
and those being eaten; hee drew his
purse, & boldly drew out a *Marevedi*,
willing me to fetch the value there-
of in wine. The Deuill, who as (they
say) is the occasion that men become
theeves, was ready at hand to pre-
pare opportunity to deceiue him.
It fortuned, that neere the fire there
lay a little root, somewhat long and
euill fauoured, such an one as belike,
was not seruiceable for the pot, and
therefore was left there as abiection:
and as at that time there was no more
but hee and I alone, I felt my selfe
pinched with a liquorish appetite,
my teeth being set an edge with the
sweet saour of his roasted sausedge
(the which was the onely witnesse
that I should be the eater thereof) I
not regarding what the sequel might
be

The Spaniards Life.

be, laying aside all manner of feare,
for to fulfill my rash desire, in the
meane while, that the blinde man
was drawing his purse, I whipt off
quickly the sausedge from the spit,
and thereon broached the foresaid
worm-eaten root, which my mas-
ter most willingly tooke, and began
to turne, thinking to roast that which
for the goodnesse, was not worthy
to be boyled.

So I went for wine, and by the
way I made a faire end of my sau-
sedge, and as soone as I came in a-
gaine, I found my master wringing
betweene two slices of bread, the
naughty root, not knowing what it
was: for with his finger, he had not
as yet touched it. Immediately af-
ter he began to eat, taking a large bit
of his bread, meaning to have tasted
a little of his sausedge, but his teeth
entred into the root, where he found
a cold morfell: whereat hee being
fore

fore abashed, shewed it to mee, and said; *Lazarus*, what meaneth this? I then answered: Now Iesus what is this? Alas wretch that I am, doe you meane to blame me; you know well that I came but now from the *Tauerne*: with wine; surely some naughty man hath been here, that hath done this in despite or mockage. No, no, then said he, that cannot bee possible, for I neuer let the spirit goe sicke out of mine owne hands. Then to cleere my selfe, I began to sweare all othes, that I was innocent of that vile exchange: but all was in vaine, for from the subtilty of that ingracious blinde man, nothing could be kept hid.

Hee rose vp and tooke fast hold on my head, to smell whether hee could feele the saueur of his sauedge: and as soone as euer hee felt occasion to suspect that I had eaten it, he was as glad as a good bloudhound,

that had his chase in the winde: Wherefore, to be better informed of the truth, being fore indred with anger, he rashly opened my mouth with the strength of his hands, so that perforce I was faine to gape euen to the uttermost, and then he thrusteth in all haile, into my mouth, his worne-eaten nose, which was both long and sharpe, yea, which at that time by reason of great anger, was lengthned a long handfull, so that the pike therof did gash my throte. Wherefore, partly by reason of feare that I was in, and partly because the sauedge in such short time was not settled in my stomacke, but most of all, by reason of the great trouble which his monstrous nose put me to, wherewith I was in a manner choked, I was forced to disloose my gluttony, so that the sauedge of necessity returned to his old master againe: for

for my poore stomach was so much altered, that before the blind man had drawn out his hoggish nose, I was even ready to render up the theft. For looke as soone as ever he had pulled out his snoute, the evill eaten Sawfedge came gushing out after, in honest company. O mightie God, who had bene then buried, might well have looked for my companie, for I was altogether dead: his rage was then so great, that if men had not come in, I think certainly he would have taken away my life. With much ado I got me out of his hands leaving him with his claws full of that small quantity of haire which I had left, (all which torment hee most justly deserved, seeing that through his naughtinesse I suffered such persecution.) The ungodly blinde man would then declare to as many as came in, my unfortunate disgraces, rehear-

rehearsing often over, as well the Tale of his Por, and of the bunch of Grapes, as also this last trick of his Sawfedge. The laughter that men made was so great, that all such as were in the street came in to see the Feast, where he recited with such grace all my misadventures, that me thought verily, I did them great wrong in not laughing for company. When all this was past, there came to my minde a certaine faint and a slothfull cowardnesse which I had committed, in not leaving him noselesse, seeing that I had time fit for the purpose: yea, and that I had gone halfe the way to do it. For if I had but closed my teeth together, his Nose had never gone more abroad: and truely I beleieve, because it was the Nose of that naughty man, it would have better agreed with my stomach, than the Sawfedge did, for had it once bene invisible, I

D might

might well have denied it him againe. Now I would to God my teeth had done their part, for it had beene better so, then otherwise. The hostesse, and other that were there, made us friends, and with the Wine which I had brought for his supper, they washed my face and my throat which his nailes had all torne.

Whereat he made much grudging, saying, Certainly this Boy doth consume me more Wine in a yeare, with washing his wounds than I doe drinke in two. Without doubt *Lazaro*, thou art more bound to Wine, than to thy Father, for he only begot thee once, and it hath saved thy life a thousand times, and so declared how many times hee had wounded me, and healed me againe with Wine, and then said againe: I promise thee truly *Lazaro*, if any man in the world shall have happy chance with Wine, it is thou.

Which

Which words caused those that were there, to laugh heartily, I being still in most sorrowfull despaire. But Icke what the blind man prognosticated then, it was not all in vaine, for his sayings at that time proved afterward most true: wherefore I have oftentimes since called to minde his words, whereby it appeared that hee had a great gift in prophesying, and therefore it hath often repented me of my cruell dealing towards him, although his deserts were evill, seeing that his words of Prophecie proved so true, as hereafter your worship shall plainly understand.

To conclude, his evill nature and my usage considered, I determined to forsake him for ever: and as I imagined daily thereupon, desirous to depart, this his last deed perswaded me fully thereunto, and the matter chanced to fall out thus: Within

two dayes after, wee went through the Citie to demaund mens charities, where it had rained much the night before, and because likewise it rained fore that day, my Master went praying under certaine Portalls that are there, where it was dry. When night did approach, the raine continuing still, he said unto me, *Lazaro*, this raine is without end, for the more that night draweth on, the more earnest it is: let us draw homeward to our lodging. But as it chanced, we had betweene us and home, a great wide Gutter which the raine had made; wherefore I said, Vncle, this Gutter is very broad and swift, so that wee shall have much ado to passe: notwithstanding I have now espied one narrow place where we may well leape over drier foote. He thought verily then, that I had given him good and friendly counsell, and therefore said, my good

Boy

Boy, now I perceive you are wise, I must needs love thee: therefore I pray thee leade me to the narrowest place, where I may best escape, for now in Winter it is not good to take water, especially to goe wetshood. O how glad I was then to see the time which long before I had wished for, wherefore without delay, I brought him from underneath the Portals, and lead him right against a great Pillar of Stone which stood in the Market place, and then said, Vncle this is the very narrowest place of all the Gutter.

Then streight wayes, by reason of the great Raine that fell upon him, and also because of his great hast to bee under covert, and chiefly, for that God himselfe had at that time so blinded his understanding, to give me good time of revengement, hee gave full credit to my words and said, *Lazaro*, let mee see now how

thou canst set me where I must take my jumpe, and then leape thou over on Gods name: I did so, for when I had taught him his place, I leaped as far as I could, and tooke standing behinde the Post, as one that had watched the re-encounter of a Bull: and then I said, now Vncle leape boldly as farre as you can possibly; for else you may chance wet your selfe. I had not so soone said the word, but that incontinently the poore blinde man was ready to take his race, returning a Pace or two backe from the standing, and so with great force tooke hisleape, throwing forward his body like a Bucke, that at the last his head tooke such a monstrous blow against the cruell stony Pillar, that his head sounded withall, as it had been a Leather Bottle, whereupon hee fell backe with his cloven Pate, halfe dead: then gave I a leape and said, how now Vncle,

Vncle, could you smell the Sawfedge so well, and why uot the pillar I pray you? prove now a little what you can doe.

So I left him there, betweene the hands of many men that came in all hast to helpe him; and tooke my ready way straight towards the towne gate, with no slow pace, and then trotted so fast forward, that before night I arrived at *Tortosa*. After that time I never understood, nor yet sought to know what God Almighty did with him.

* * *

How Lazaro placed himselfe,
with a Priest, and what thing
happened to him in his
service.



THE next day after,
doubting of mine
owne safety there, I
departed thence and
went to a Village
which is called *Me-*
keda, where I met for my sinnes, with
a Priest, who as soone as he espied
how that I demaunded Almes, did
enquire whether I could helpe to
Masse: I answered, saying, yea Sir,
that I can, as truth it was: for al-
though the blinde man had used mee
scarce well, hee taught mee to doe a
thousand feat's, whereof this was
one. The Priest received me for his
owne: so I escaped then from the
Thunder & came into the Tempest,
yea,

yea, and God knoweth, how from
evill, to ten times worse; for the
blinde man was in comparison of
this Master, a great *Alexander*. How-
beit, hee was so coverous aniggard,
as heretofore I have rehearsed. All
the misery in the World, was inclo-
sed within this wretched Priest, for
he had alwayes a great old Coffer,
wherein he continually locked with
a Key which did hang at the point of
his Coate, all the Bread that came
from the Church at offerings, for-
getting at no time to leave the same
unlocked, being his onely store-
house and Buttery. For about all
the house a man might discerne no-
thing that could be eaten, neither
Bacon hung in the Chimney, nor
Cheeses layd upon shelves, nor yet
broken Bread in some odde corner,
as commonly in other houses one
should finde, which things, so that
I might onely have seene and not ta-
sted,

The Spaniards Life.

sted, the sight would have comforted me much. All the provision hee had, was a Rope of Onions, in a high Garret, kept also under a sure locke and key: my allowance was onely an Onion for every foure dayes. And when I should come for the key to take my due, if there were any stranger by, he would thrust his hand into his bosome, and with much modesty would say, take the key, see it be immediately delivered mee againe, thou doest nothing but cram up meate. So that he that had heard him, would have judged there had been under the custody of that key, all the confectures of *Valentia*. But for any thing that was there, beside the Rope of Onions that hung on a Naile, the Divell himselfe might have had part, and of them hee kept such straight account, that if I had taken at any time more than my Ordinary, I should dearely have bought it.

After

The Spaniards Life.

After that I had continued a while with him, I was ready every houre to fall downe dead for hunger. His use was, to Dine and Sup with as much flesh as mounted to the value of five Blankes, whereof I was sure never to taste, unlesse it were of the Broth, which sometimes he would friendly part betweene us, and so for Bread, I would to God I might have had halfe as much as was sufficient. Vpon Saterdayes, as the custome was in that Citie, hee would send me for a Sheepes-head that should cost three Marevedies, whereof when it was sod, hee would eat both the eyes, the tongue, and the braine, yea, and all the flesh on both the cheeke bones: Then reaching me the platter, with a few naked Bones would say, take downe this to thee, and rejoyce, seeing that thou hast the world at will: I am sure the Pope himselfe hath now no

better

A Blanke the xii. part of an English penny The custome is there upon Saturday to eat the heads, the feet and bowels of all beasts with his licence.

Two blankes a Marevedi.

The Spaniards Life.

better life than thou hast: then would I answer him, with low voyce, God send thee alwayes the like. I had not dwelt with him three weeks, but I was so leane that my legs were scarce able to beare me: the hunger was so great which I sustained, that I never thought to escape death, unlesse that Gods helpe and mine owne industry, would finde some remedy to save my life. And for to use my accustomed subtilty, there was not wherewithall, seeing that there was nothing there to give assault unto: yea, although there had beene, I might never have beene able to deceive him, as I had done the poore blinde man, upon whom I pray God take mercy, if he be dead with his last blow. For howbeit hee was crafty, yet wanting his precious sight, I was sure he could never see what I hourly did. But there was never man that had quicker eyesight than

The Spaniards Life.

than this Priest. For at offering time, the silver was not so soon false into the Basen, but that freight he had it registred, having alwayes one eye to my hand, and another to the people: and his eyes would so roll in his head, as if they had beene of Quicksilver. As soone as offering was done, hee would take the Basen out of my hands, and lay it upon the Altar, so that I was never able to deceive him of one blanke.

And whiles I continued with him, (or to say better,) whiles that I consumed my selfe in this miserable service, hee never sent me to the Tavernes, for as much as the value of a Blanke in Wine, but that small quantitie which he had offered on the Sunday, he kept alwayes in his Coffer so sparingly, that it would last him all the weeke over. And for to hide his covetousnesse, hee would sometimes say unto me, my Boy, all Priests

The Spaniards Life.

Priests ought to be sober in eating and drinking, and therefore I dare not breake order as many other doe. Now you shall see how the Miser li- ed falsely therein, for at burials and Dirges, where he had meat at other mens charges, hee would eate like a Woolfe, more then foure men, and drinke as it were a Sainter: and be- cause his Office was alwayes to say Dirge, at such times (God forgive me) I was alwayes an enemy to hu- mane nature and onely, because that then we should fare well, and have meat at liberty, I wished and prayed God that he would every day call up one to heaven. When wee went to minister the Sacrament to such as were sicke, my Master would desire those that were there, to pray for the sicke man; surely I was never one of the last that prayed, desiring God with all my heart, not that hee would doe to the patient according to his

will,

The Spaniards Life.

will, (as other prayed) but that hee would dispatch him out of the world: and when any of them esca- ped death I was ready (God forgive me) to wish him at the Devill, and whoeover dyed, was sure to have of me many blessings, and prayers for his soule. I dwelt with this Master about six moneths, and in that time there dyed onely twenty persons, which I certainly flew, for at the least, the earnest request of my prayers was cause of their death: for God the Father perceiving the raging hunger which I continually sustained, rejoy- ced (as I thinke) to slay them, to save my life thereby, considering that otherwise my disease could not be remedied, for I was never at ease but when wee had burials: The day that there was none, my teeth should have no worke, my heart would faint, because that I had beene used sometimes

10

A Sainter
is a kinde
of drunken
Prophets
in Spaine,
which take
upon them
the healing
of mad
dogs.

Lazaro
had not
cared
though the
King had
dyed, so
that hee
might
have had
meat to
stay his
hunger.

The Spaniards Life.

to have my belly filled. At such times I found ease in nothing but in death, which, then I wished, as well for my selfe, as I had done before for the sicke men. I determined oftentimes to depart from that miserable Master, yet fearing so doe, for two causes, first, because I durst not trust my legges, which by hunger were brought to great weakenesse; secondly, considering with my selfe, saying, I have had two Masters, with the first I dyed for hunger, whom when I had forsaken I chanced upon this other, which with the very same disease hath almost brought me to my grave: therefore I made account, that if I should forsake the second, and meete with a third that were worse then these two, then there were no remedie but plaine death. Wherefore I never durst depart from him, being assured to finde all estates worse and worse,

knowing

The Spaniards Life.

knowing that to descend another degree, *Lazaro* should be soone forgotten, being once rid out of this world.

And being in such affliction (God of his grace deliver every faithfull Christian from the like) not knowing how to counsell my selfe, my misery daily increasing, upon a day, when by chance my wretched master had gone abroad, there arrived by chance to the doore a Tinker, which I beleeve was an Angell disguised, sent from God, who demanded for worke: I answered sottly, thou hast enough to amend in mee, and I beleeve more than thou canst doe. But as it was no time then to delay the matter, (by divine inspiration) I said unto him, Vncle, I have lost the Key of this Coffer, I feare that my Master will beat mee; for Gods sake looke amongst your Keyes if there be any that will open it, I

E

will

Lazaro
was a good
Christian
beleeving
that all
goodnesse
came from
God.

The Spaniards Life.

will consider your paines: the heavenly Tinker began to assay, now one Key, now another, of this great bunch, and I helped him with my prayers, so that immediately before I was aware, he opened it: whereof I was so glad, that me-thought I did see in figure, (as they say) the face of God, when I beheld the bread within it: and when he had done all, I said unto him, I have no money, but take this for my payment: so hee tooke one of the fairest loaves, and after he had delivered mee the Key, hee departed right-well pleased, and I as well content as hee.

At that time I touched nothing, partly, because I perceived my selfe to be the Lord of such Treasure, that by reason of that Key, hunger durst never againe approach mee. Incontinently after, who commeth in, but my unhappy Master, and as God would, hee never tooke heed

The Spaniards Life.

of the loafe, which the heavenly Tinker had borrowed.

The next day after, as soone as hee went abroad, I began to open my Paradise of Bread, and what betweene my hands and my teeth, with the twinkling of an eye I made a loafe invisible, forgetting in no wise to locke the Chest againe: then I began cheerefully to sweepe the house, judging that by such remedy I might ease my sorrowfull life. So I passed that day and the next, with much mirth. But my contrary Fortune went about to hinder mee to enjoy such pleasure long, for the third day just, a certain Ague came upon mee, in perceiving him that had slain me with hunger, at an undue houre, over the Chest, turning and tossing, accounting and reckoning his Bread.

I dissembled the matter, as I had

E 2

not

The Spaniards Life.

not perceived him, and in my secret prayer and devotion, I prayed Saint *Iohn* to blinde him. And after that he had beene a good while casting his account upon his fingers, hee said unto mee, if it were not that this Coffer is so sure, I would say that some of my bread hath beene taken away, but from henceforth I will keepe good account of it, there is now nine loaves left besides a broken piece: then said I with lowe voyce, nine evils God send unto thee. It seemed unto mee with that which hee had said, my heart to be pierced through with an arrow, and my stomacke began to rive for hunger, perceiving how I was put to my former dyet. Hee then departed out, and I opened the said Coffer to comfort my selfe a little, and beholding the bread, which I durst not touch, but worshipping it, I beheld and counted it over, to see if she

The Spaniards Life.

the wretch had over-reckoned himselfe: but I found his account more just, than I would have wished it by the one halfe: the most that I could doe, was to give it a thousand kisses, and to cut a little delicately, of that place where it was cut before: and with that I passed over that day, yet not so merrily as I did the other. But now because two or three dayes before I had bread at will, the appetite in my stomacke did increase in such sort, that I was almost dead for hunger: wherefore being alone, I did nothing but open and locke againe the Coffer, beholding alwayes that bread as a God. And God himselfe which succoureth those that are afflicted, seeing me in such necessity, brought a little remedy unto my memory, which was, that I remembered with my selfe this Coffer to bee old and broken in many places, and although the holes were little, yet

E 3 might

The Spaniards Life.

might it be thought that Mice had entred therein to damage the Bread. And to take out a whole Loafe, the Wretch would soone espie the fault, yet this may be better borne withall: so then I began to claw the Bread with my Nails, upon a simple Napkin that was there, taking one Loafe and leaving another, so that of every third or fourth, I would be sure to take some Crummes, and even as if they were Confects, I did swallow the same, to comfort my stomacke. When hee should come to dinner, opening his Chest, and espying incontinently the hurt, hee did judge that Rats had done that spoyle, for I had so counterfeited their gnawing, that any man would have thought the same: wherefore he sought all corners of the Chest, and at the last he espied certaine holes: where he suspected they had entred: whereupon he called me in all haste, saying

The Spaniards Life.

saying; *Lazaro*, see here what persecution hath beene done this night upon our Bread. I began to marvell, demaunding what it should be? what should it be, said he, but Rats, which leave nothing whole? we went then to dinner, and as God would, I had better allowance than I was wont; for with his Knife, he pared away all that, which he thought the Mice had touched, saying; Take, eat this my Boy, Mice are cleane.

I chanced that day to fare better, for hee augmented my allowance with that which I had made, by the travell of my hands, or to say truth, of my Nayles. We ended our dinner for all that, somewhat too soone, yet there came another plunge upon mee, perceiving how the Priest was earnest, in pulling nails out of the vvall, and seeking little boords, to stop the holes againe: wherefore I said to my selfe (Lord God) unto

The Spaniards Life.

how many perils and calamities of Fortune, are humane creatures subjected? How short a time doe the pleasures of our troublesome life last? Lo where I am now, which trusted by this my poore remedy, to ease my misery, being in best hope of good adventure, my evill lucke would not content, but opened the sight of my coverous Masters understanding, causing him to have more subtrill wits then he had given him by nature, although such wretches are commonly subtrill enough.

When hee had damned up the holes, I thought his Chest should be shut to my comfort, and opened to my paine, and therefore I never left lamenting, untill that the curious Carpenter with his company of boords, had ended his worke of nayling, and when he had done, said: Now yee traytorly Mice, you must change purpose, for there is no more profit

The Spaniards Life.

profit for you in this house. A loone as ever he went abroad, I went to view his worke, and I perceived that he had not left in his old Chest one hole unstopped, not so much as a place for a flie to get in: notwithstanding, without hope of gaine, I opened the Chest with my unprofitable key, & there visited two loaves begun, which hee had thought the Mice had carved, and from them once againe, I scraped a little quantity, touching them lightly, like a nimble Master of Defence, for Necessity, at that time my Mistresse, caused me day and night to imagine, how I might live & seeke remedy for my sore, wherunto hunger taught me the way, which commonly maketh men have ready wits. I began then to study about my affaires, seeking meanes to draw some commodity out of the said covetous Coffer: perceiving one night, that my Master slept

The Spaniards Life.

slept soundly (or at least made mee beleeve so) by his snoring and blowing. I rose on my feet, and as I had taken order with my selfe the day before, what should be done that night, I had left an old Knife, which was cast about the house, in a place where it might bee found at need, and went to that happy Coffer; and where it seemed to have least defence, I gave the assault with my rusty knife, which served my turne well for a Wimple: but the Chest, by reason of good yeares, being weak, without strength, very soft and tender; did straightwayes render and consent, that I should make, for my commodity, a good hole in the side of it; and that done, opening the wounded Chest, and knowing every loose severally by the touch, I did as I had done before, and by that meanes being somewhat comforted, having locked the Chest againe, I returned

The Spaniards Life.

turned to my Pallet, whereupon I slept little (and as I thinke) mine evening Supper was cause of that; for otherwise at that time of the night the King of France his cares, could never breake me of my sleepe.

On the morning, the Priest my Master, perceiving the hurt which was done, as well to the bread, as to the Coffer, began to curse the Mice, saying; What meaneth this? there was never Mouse wont to goe here before now: and certainly his words were true; for if any house in the whole Kingdome might bee privileged from Mice, it might be his, for Mice are never wont to dwell, where no parings of meat doe fall. But now hee began againe to seekē nailes about the walls, and little boards, to make defence against the traytorous Mice: But as soone as night came, that he went to his rest, I rose up with my tooles, and looked what

what he stopped in the day time, I broke up again in the night : Finally, the one and the other of us took such paine, that this proverbe was fulfilled, When one doore is shut, the other openeth : At the last, wee seemed to have *Penelopes* web in hand, whatsoever he wrought in the day, I undid againe in the night, in so much, that we brought the poore Coffer to such estate, that whosoever would properly talke of it, might compare it to an old Boat or Brigantine, for that number of old Nayles, that was driven into each side of it. When he saw his remedy prevailed not, he said, This Coffer is so old, and so weake, that it is no longer able to defend our victuals from vermine, it is now at that point, that if I meddle any more with it, the more it will decay, and so at length be able to doe us no service at all, and peradventure, evill fortune will cause me

spend

spend two or three shillings to buy another : the best remedy that I can finde, seeing this doth not prevaile, is to set up a Trap within it, to take these cruell Rats : whereupon, hee went immediately, and borrowed one of his neighbours, which hee had continually bent within the Coffer, with a bait of Cheese-paring, which was laid onely for my comfort and ease, for although I could well have eaten my bread alone, without the helpe of any thing else, to cause my appetite, yet the Cheese-paring, which I would pull out of the Trap, gave me trim taste with my Mouse-eaten bread.

But when he should perceive the bread so spoyled with Rats, and the Cheese eaten, & the Rat that did the deed not taken, then would he wish the trap at the Devill, demanding of his neighbours what it might be, that the Cheese should be eaten, and the Rat

Rat

Rat not taken, yea and the Trap fallen ? The neighbours would answer, that it was no Rat that did that harme, for at one time or other shee had been taken.

Snakes
won't there
to resort
much into
mens hou-
ses for
food.

And amongst the rest one said, I doe remember that a Snake was wont to haunt your house, and by all reason it is she that hath done the deed; for she being long, might easily eat the Cheefe, and although the Trap did fall, yet because her body entred not in all, she might well and easily get out and scape.

This neighbours saying did satisfie the whole company, and especially my Master, which from that time forward never slept one night soundly, for when he had heard the least noyse amongst the wood, hee would thinke that it were the Snake gnawing the Coffer, vvherefore he vvould straight be up vvith a cudgell, vvich sithence hee entred into such
suspicion

suspicion, vvvas alvvayes ready at his beds head, vvherevvith he vvould beat the poore Coffer so hard, to feare the Snake, that hee vvaked all the neighbours vvith the noyse.

And as for me; I never slept, for oftentimes in the night, hee would turne me and my Pallet over and over, thinking that the Snake had gotten thither into my bed, or into my apparell; for hee was informed, that those beasts oftentimes seeking heat, have come into childrens Cradles, and bitten them to death. I would alvvayes make as though I slept; then hee would in the morning say unto me: O *Lazaro*, hast thou heard no noyse this night, I did pursue the Snake, and I was afraid she had gotten into thy bed, for they are colde, and therefore seeke heat. Then answered I, I pray God shee hath not bitten mee; I feare Snakes as the Devill.

Flee

The Spaniards Life.

He continued in such fearefull phantasie, that he never slept, so that I being the Snake, durst never approach the Coffer, but onely in the day time, whiles he was at Church, or abroad in the towne, then would I make my assault: whereof when hee had knowledge, perceiving that hee was not able to find any further remedy, would every night (as I have told you) be raging mad. All that I feared then was, that hee with his diligence would meet with my privie key, which I had hid under the bed-straw: but for more surety, at night time, I would alwayes keepe it in my mouth, for when that I dwelt with the blinde man, I had brought my mouth to such use, by conveying money unto it, that it served me often for a purpose. I can well remember, when sometimes I have had in it fourteene or fifteene Deniers, and not hindred my eating, otherwise I had
never

The Spaniards Life.

never beene master of denier, but that the cursed blind man would have found it out, not leaving one scame or wrinkle of my coate unsought.

Therefore as I tell you, I did every night put the key in my mouth for a safegard, and by that meanes I slept soundly, not fearing that he should find it. Notwithstanding, when that the euil houre could not be escaped, my diligence was all but vaines: it pleased my fatall destinie (or to say truth) my sinnes, that upon a night when I was a sleepe, the key happened so to turne in my mouth, being wide open, in such sort, that my breath comming forth through the hole of the key, which was hollow, made such loude whistling (as euill fortune would) that my carefull master heard it, who thought certainly that it had beene the hissing of the Snake, (as surely it might bee
F like

like) he rose up very softly, holding his cudgell fast, and by the noise of the hissing came by little and little streight to me, without making any noise, to the intent the Snake should not heare him. When hee was neere me, hee thought certainly that the snake was there in the strawe, wherefore hee lifted up his cudgell to kill her, and vvith all his strength he discharged upon my head such a cruell blowe, that hee wounded me to death. Whereupon he knowing that he had stricken me, belike by the groning that I made after the receite of the blowe, suspecting vvhat had hapned, cried out to avwake me, but as soone as he touched me vvith his hands, he felt abundance of bloud issue out of my head: vvherefore considering vvhat hurt he had done mee, he vvent in hast for a candle, and returning vvith it in his hand, found me groning and gasping

gasping with my key in my mouth which I never let goe, being halfe out, even as it was when it made such hissing, whereat the killer of Snakes marvelled, especially when he beheld the key, which he tooke out of my mouth, and viewing it, he perceived what it was, for in workmanship it differeth nothing from his. But for more surerly hee went streight to proue it, and so then espied the whole deceite. God knoweth then how he bragged, that he had taken the Rar and the Snake that had made him such warre, and that so destroyed his bread: what happened the three daies following, I am not able to tell, for I was as it were in a Whales belly, but only this that I haue told you: which I had heard my master report, after that I was returned to my selfe, for he declared the whole matter to as many as came in and out.

The third day after, I began to recouer, maruellling much, when I perceiued my selfe beeing in my strawe, my head full of plaisters, oyles, and oyntments, and being there at amazed, I said, what meaneth this? The Priest then answered, the meaning of this is, that I had chased away the Rat and the Snake that hath done mee such hurt: then calling to mind my affaires, I suspected my hurt, and the cause thereof: then came there in an old woman, with certaine of the neighbours, to undoe the clouts about my head, and to dresse my wounds; and being glad to see me recovered, said, there is no danger now in him, seeing that he hath his senses; they began then to recite my afflictions, they laughing and I weeping. After all this, they gave me meate, I being almost dead for hunger. Much ado they had to recouer me, but by little

and little I waxed strong, and at xv. dayes end, I rose up and was out of danger, yet not without hunger, howbeit halfe healed. The next day after that I rose, my master took me by the hand, and brought me out at the doore, and leaving me in the streete, said unto me: *Lazarus*, from this day forth, thou shalt be at thine owne liberty, and not under my subjection; the Lord be with thee: goe seek thee a master, I have no neede of such a diligent servant, it is not possible, but that thou hast bene servant to some blinde man. And therewith blessing himselfe from me, as though I had bene possessed with some evill spirit,

he getteth him in and

locketh fast his

doore.

How

How

How

How

How Lazaro placeth himselfe to
serue a Squire, and what hap-
ned to him in his service.

BY this meanes I was for-
ced to helpe my selfe
being weake, and shortly
after I came, by helpe
of good people, to this noble ciitie
of Toledo, where (I thanke God) my
wound closed up. As long as I was
sicke, every man gave me his chari-
tie, but after that I was once whole,
every man would say, Thou vaga-
bond and loiterer, why dost thou
not seeke a master? Then I mur-
muring with my selfe, would say,
and where the Diuill shall I finde
him, unlesse God, as he made the
world, make me one? But now I
demanding almes from doore to
doore for Gods sake, I found little
remedie

remedie, for charity had then ascen-
ded up to Heauen.

At the last God caused mee to
meete with a Squire, which walked
thorow the streets, in very sumptu-
ous apparell, and cleanly, his pace
in going, well measured after good
order. He beheld me and I him, and
hee said vnto mee: Boy, dost thou
want a master? I answered, I would
faine haue a good master, sir. Then
follow mee, said he: God hath sent
thee good fortune to meete with
me, thou hast prayed well this day.
I thanke God for that which I had
heard him say, and for that hee fee-
med by his behavior and counte-
nance to be even he, that I had so
much longed for. I met with this
third master betime in the morning,
and he led me after him through
the most part of the Citie: We passed
through the market place, where
there was sold bread, and other

The Spaniards Life.

Gentlemen use to buy their meate in market themselves. There is not such provision of meate in Spaine as there is in England.

He went so late to the Church, to carry that his dinner might be made ready.

provision: I looked when he would haue loden me there with meate, for it was then, that every man provided and brought things necessarie for their dinner. But with comely and large pace hee went by, and left that place behinde him: then I said to my selfe, peraduenture he doth not see here that which doth content him, he will buy in an other place: we walked so long that the clocke strooke eleuen, then went he to the chiefe Church, and I after him, where I sawe him most devoutly heare seruice: when all was ended, and the people departed, he came out of the Church, and marched leisurely downe a streete: and as for me, I went ioyfully, the best content in the world, perceiuing how that we did not stay to seeke our dinner, imagining that this my new master had bene some great personage, and that he had his house

provided

The Spaniards Life.

provided beforehand, that wee should finde dinner ready, yea such as I desired, and as I had neede of. At that time the clocke strooke one after noone, when wee arrived at a house before the which my master had staid, I with him; then he throwing his cloake over his left shoulder very cruelly, drew out a key out of my sleene to open his dore: we then entred in, the entrance whereof was so darke and unhandsome, that it might feare any man liuing to enter in; howbeit, there was within it a pretty little court and reasonable chambers: and when we were within hee putteth off his cloake, demanding mee whether my hands were cleane: we shooke it, and then doubled it handsomely, and after he had blowed cleane the dust away from an old bench that was there, he laid it up: that being done, hee laye him downe, demanding of me at large

large what countrey man I was, and how I came to the citie: I gaue him a larger account than I was willing: for I thought it a more comuenient time to command mee to lay the cloath and to take out pottage, than to make such inquirance: yet for all that, bringing forth the best lyes I could frame for my selfe, I made him account what I was, reckoning all the goodnesse that was in my personage, leauing apart all that which I thought was not to bee rehearsed in that place: when J had declared all, he stayed awhile, and by that time I did see an euill signe: for it was almost two a clocke, and yet hee was no readier to dine than hee that had beene dead. I mervailed moreover when I perceited that hee had locked his doore with his key, and that I could not heare any liuing creature stir, neither aboue nor beneath: all that ever I did see was the

the naked walls, not so much, as a chayre or stoole, nor a table, nor yet a coffer, as the other man had: finally you would haue said, it had bene a house, not inhabited.

As the
Priest had.

A while after, he demanded of me whether I had dyed: I answered saying, no sir, for it was not eight a clocke when I met with your mastership this morning: (then said he) is early as it was, I had broken my fast, and whenbever I breake my fast in the morning, I never eate againe vntill it be night, therefore passe thou over the time as well as thou canst, and wee will make amends at supper: your worship may well thinke that when I heard these words, I was ready to fall downe dead, not so much for hunger, as for plainly perceiuing, that then fortune was altogether mine enemye. Then began my sorrows to appeare vnto me againe, and I to lament my mis-

Poore Lazarus did beare his masters dinner & his owne in his bosome for feare of lacking it, misfortune: then came there to my minde, the consideration that I made when I was about to depart from the Priest, weying with my selfe, that although hee was most wretched and miserable, yet peradventure I might meet with a worse: finally, I lamented & wept my troublesome life that was past, and my death that did approuch: and yet for all this I dissembled the matter as well as I could, and said unto him, fir, I thanke God, I am a boy that doth not greatly care for eating and drinking, for I may well compare with any of my age for sobernes and measure in eating, and so I haue bene alwayes esteemed of as many masters as I haue serued: hee then answered saying, It is a vertue to liue soberly, therefore I commend thee much: Hogs fill themselves, and wise men eat discretely, what is only sufficient for them.

I now understand you well fir, said I to my selfe, euill lucke light upon such vertue and goodnesse as these my maisters doe finde in hunger: immediately after all this, I conteyned my selfe behinde the dore, where I drew certaine peeces of bread out of my bosome, which were left of that I had receiued for Gods sake two dayes before. But he perceiuing mee, said, come hither boy, what doest thou eate? I came unto him, and did shew the bread, whereof he tooke a peece, which of two or three was the best and the biggest, saying, By my soule me thinkes this bread is good and sauorous: yea mary fir, at this time especially, said I: It is so indeed said he, but where hadst thou it? was it moulded with cleane hands? That I know not said I, howbeit I finde it good. I pray God it bee cleane, said the poore Gentleman: and with that putting his hand to his

The Spaniards Life.

his mouth, deuoured quickly all that I had given him: and somewhat before wee had ended, hee said, by God this bread hath a good taste, how sauerous it is. And as for mee then, I perceiued upon which foote he halted, I made haste to eat, perceiued him to be so disposed, that if he had made an end before mee, I thought he would gently haue offered to helpe me: therefore wee ended both at one time in good order. He began then with his hand to brush away a few crummes, which had fallen upon his breast, and after that entered into a chamber that was there, and thence brought forth an old pot broken-mouthed, and drank well, and then he offered me the pot. But I to seeme sober and modest, said, sir, I drinke no wine: it is water, said hee, thou maist well drink of it: then I tooke the pot and dranke not much, for it was not thirst, but hun-

In Spaine many
drinke nothing but
water, and some that
may haue wine, but
this Squire dranke it
for want of better.

The Spaniards Life.

ger that troubled me. We passed the time so untill that it was night, reasoning of sundry matters which he demanded of mee, wherunto I answered as well as I could. Then wee entered into the chamber from whence hee had brought forth his drinking pot, he saying: Boy, goe to the other side, and marke how wee make this bed, that thou maist know how to make it from henceforth. I went to the one side, and he to the other, & made the poore bed, which was an easie matter to doe, for it was thus as I wel tel you: a sheeps hurdle laid ouerthwart two tressles, a silly rotten hard mattresse, & upon that his bed clothes, which by reason of seldom washing could not be discerned in colour from the mattresses, the which had not half so much wool as need required: we turned it to make it soft, but that was impossible to doe, for very hard it is for a man to make an hard thing soft, and

ger

The Spaniards Life.

and the deuill a thing was within the cruell matresse at all, for when it was spread upon the hurdle of big sticks, every stick appeared thorow, even as like as could be, to the ribs of a carion leane Hogge: wee spread upon the hungry miserable martris, a coverlet suteable to the rest of the stuffe; what stuffe it was of, I cannot well deuise: before that we had made the beddes it was night, and he said: *Lazaro*, it is now late, and from hence to the market place where provision of meate is sold, it is a long way, and besides that, ruffians and cheeuers doe meete men every night to spoyle them of their clokes, and caps in the dark, therefore let us passe over this night as well as we may, to morrow God will provide better for us. I am not prouided of meate, because I haue bene hitherto alone without a seruant, and I haue alwaies taken my meals

The streets
are narrow and
darke, few
lanternes
are hung
out.

The Spaniards Life.

in the Citie, but from henceforth we will keepe a new order. Sir, said I, take no care for me, I can passe over one night, and more if neede bee, without meate: And that will bee cause that thou shalt live longer, said he, for as wise men affirme, There is nothing that can make a man live longer, than to eat a little. If that be true, said I to my selfe, I shall neuer die, for I haue alwayes bene constrained to keepe that rule, and I thinke I am fortun'd to obserue it, as long as I live.

After all this, he went to bed, making his hose and his doublet his bolster, and causing me to lye at his feet, where I never slept winke, for the hard hurdle never left galling my naked bones, which by hunger and sorrow together, had not left on them, nor yet on all my body besides, an ounce of flesh: and as I chanced to eat nothing that day, my

Hunger is
alwayes an
enemy to
sleep.

G

braine

The Spaniards Life.

braine was so light, that I could never take rest. Wherefore (God forgive mee) I cursed my selfe and my fortune a thousand times, and that which was worse than all this, I never durst change sides for feare of waking him: Wherefore I desired death.

The next morning, when he rose, hee began to shake, and to make cleane his hose, his doubler, and his cloke; I was his Brush, so hee arrayd himselfe at leasure: I gave him then water for his hands, and when hee had occupied his Combe, hee taketh his Sword and kisseth the Pommel, and as he was putting it to his girdle, said unto mee: My Boy, if thou knewest what a blade this is, thou wouldest marvell; there is no gold that can buy it of mee, for of as many as *Antonio* made, hee could never give such temper to any, as hee gave this: then drawing it out of the Scabbard

The Spaniards Life.

hard; hee tasted the edge with his fingers, saying; Seest thou it? I dare undertake to cut asunder with it, a whole fleece of wooll: I answered him softly to my selfe, saying, And I with my teeth, though they be not of such hard metall a lease of bread weighing foure pound.

Then up went the Sword againe, hanging it at his girdle. And after all this, he marched out into the street, with a leasurely well measured pace, holding his body straight, making therewith, and with his head, a very good countenance, casting the end of his Cloake sometimes upon his shoulder, and otherwhiles under his arme, with his right hand alwayes on his side: and as hee was going forth, said, *Lazaro*, looke well about the house, while I doe goe and heare Service, make the bed, and then fetch some water here

The Spaniards Life.

at the River beneath, locke the doore lest any body rob us, and lay the Key underneath the threshold, that I may come in: he went up the street with such comely gesture & countenance: that hee that had not knowne him, would have judged him to have been neere kinsman unto the high Constable of Spaine, or at the least his chiefe Chamberlaine.

I remained then alone, saying to my selfe, Blessed art thou, O God, which sendest the sicknesse, and givest the remedy; who would thinke that I should thinke my Lord and Master, with such gesture and countenance, but that hee had supped well yesternight, yea, and that he had slept in a good bed? And although it bee now early, who would thinke, but that he had broken his fast well? Great are thy secret doings, O Lord, and all people are ignorant of them! might not his good disposition, his
reasonable

The Spaniards Life.

reasonable Cloake and Coat deceive any man? Who would distrust, that such a noble Gentle man had eaten nothing all yesterday, but one peece of bread, which his servant *Lazare* had kept in the Chest of his bosome, a day and a night, so that it could not bee (to say the truth) very cleane? Who would suspect, that he had dried this morning; his face and hands upon the Skirts of his Coat, for want of a Towell? I am certaine no man would judge it in him: O Lord, how many are there in the world, that are in such bravery, as this my Master is in, which doe suffer more for a little vaine-glories sake, than they would doe for the love of thee? I stood in the doore so long, remembering all those things, that my master passed thorow a long and narrow street, then I went in and within a minute of an houre I visited the whole house above and beneath,

The Spaniards Life.

without staying, or finding whereat to stay.

When I had made the unlucky bed, I tooke my pot and went straight to the River, and being ready to take up my water, I might perceive my Master in a Garden over the water, in great talke with two comely Women, which by their countenance seemed to be some of them, whereof in Toledo a number are risely found: and many of them take a use of going abroad early in the morning in the Summer-time, to take the ayre in those Gardens and to breake their fast without provision of their owne, under trees & shadowes, neare that pleasant River, trusting to finde out some, that would bestow charges upon them, especially such as they had accustomed thereto, such lusty young Souldiers of the City, as delighted in such pastime. He was (as I meane to tell you) betweene these

The Spaniards Life.

these women devising and counter-fetting all kinde of bravery, reciting more pleasant and sweet words, than ever *Ovid* wrote: But when they perceived that their beauty had vanquished him cleane, and that he was left without shame, they demaunded of him their breake-fast, and hee therefore to have the accustomed payment.

Whereupon hee being as cold in the purse, as he was hot in stomacke, fell in such a trance, that hee lost all the colour in his face: his tongue not able to talke, was faine to alledge vaine excuses. But they, which in their science were well instructed, when they perceived his infirmitie, they gave him over for such an one as hee was indeed. All this while I was breaking my fast with stalkes of Coleworts, and when I had done, like a diligent Servant, not seene of my Master, returned home, meaning

to sweepe some part of the house, that had most need : but I could not finde wherewithall to doe the deed. Wherefore not knowing what to doe, I began to muse wherein I should occupy my selfe; and after study, I determined to tary untill noone, that my Master came, for peradventure he would bring something with him for us to eate : wherefore I tarried his coming, yet all for nothing, for it was now two a Clocke, and hee not yet come : but because hunger oppressed mee sore, I came out and locked the doore, laying the key where he had commanded, with a low and a sorrowfull voyce, my hands thrust into my bosome. I began to returne to my former practise, in so much that having God before mine eyes, and my tongue in his name, I fell to beg bread from doore to doore, and from house to house, where I thought best to speed,

having

having learned this Trade in my sucking yeares, I meane with the blinde Master, I became such a Scholler, that although in that City there was small charity, nor the yeare was not abundant, yet notwithstanding I had put my affaires in such good order, that before the Clocke stricke foure, I had laid a pound of Bread in my belly, and twice as much in my bosome and sleeves. I returned then home-ward, and in my way went thorow the streets where they solde Tripes, where I demanded a Woman that was there her charity, shee gave mee a peece of Neats foot, and a few sodden Tripes.

When I came home, my courteous Master was within, having folded his Cloke and laid it up, walking up and downe the Court : and as soone as hee did see me, hee came towards mee, wherefore I feared hee would have beaten mee, because I

had

had tarried so long, but it was no Gods will.

The first thing he demanded mee, was, where I had beene? I answered, Sir, I was here untill it was two a Clocke, and when I perceived that your Mastership came not, I went forth into the Citie, to recommend my selfe to good people, which have given mee thus much for Gods sake, and so shewed him the Tripes, which I kept in the skirt of my coat; whereat he made no angry countenance, but said, I have tarried for thee to dinner, and because I could not see thee come, I dined alone; as for thee, thou hast done like an honest Boy, for it is better to beg then to steale, as God helpe me I am of that opinion: one thing onely I will desire thee to doe, that thou wilt not let them know that thou doest dwell with mee, nor that I am thy Master: For that toucheth mine honor, and I doe
not

not doubt, but that will be kept secret, for very few doe know mee in this Citie, I would to God I had never come to it.

Of that matter, Sir, take you no care, said I; for no man will aske me that question, I need not therefore make such account to any of them. But why doest thou not fall now to thy Victuals, poore soule, if it be Gods will, wee shall soone bee out of this misery: thou shalt understand, that sithence I came in hither, I had never good houre, this house is surely built in an unhappy place, and certainly some houses are so unlucky, that looke whosoever deth dwell within them, hee shall be sure to have evill fortune.

But I promise thee, that as soone as the stormeth is ended, I will not dwell here. (no though they would give it me Rent-free.) I fall downe
then

then, and because hee should not think me a covetous glutton, I drew out my victuals, and there began to sup honestly, biting my Tripes with my bread handsomely, beholding dissemblingly my miserable Master, which had his eye alwayes upon my skirt, being at that time my onely Platter. God take such compassion on me, as I did then upon him, for I had oftentimes endured, yea, and daily felt that sorrow; which I knew tormented him: wherefore I imagined with my selfe, how I might well invite him: but because hee told mee that he had dined, I was afraid lest he would refuse the banquet.

Finally, I wished that the poore man would have eased his paine, by helpe of mine, and that hee would have eaten with me for company, as he had done the day before, especially, because that then I had better victuals, and more store, and more-

over,

over, that then my hunger was lesse: it pleased God to accomplish my desire and his together, for when I had begun my meat, as hee walked, he came neare to mee, saying; *Lazaro*, I promise thee thou hast the best grace in eating, that ever I did see any man have, for there is no man that seeth thee eat, but by seeing thee feed, shall have an appetite, although they be not an hungred.

Then would I say to my selfe, the hunger which thou sustaineest, causeth thee to think mine so beautifull: then I trusted I might helpe him, seeing that hee had so helped himselfe, and had opened me the way thereto: wherefore I said unto him, Sir, the good Toolles make the Worke-man good, this bread hath good taste, and this Neats Foor is so well sod, and so cleanly dressed, that it is able with the savour of it onely, to entice any man to eat of it.

What

The Spaniards Life.

At home
in his owne
Country,
he did eat
nothing
else.

What, is it a Neats foot? Yea Sir:
Now I promise thee it is the best
morsell in the world, there is no
Pheasant that I would like so well. I
pray you, Sir, prove of it better, and
see how you like it. I delivered then
unto his nailes the Neats foot, with
two or three peeces of the whitest
bread that I had, whereupon hee sit-
teth downe by me, and there began
to eat like one that had great need,
gnawing every one of those little
bones, better then any Grey-hound
could have done for life, saying,
This is a singular good meate: and I
to my selfe, said, The sauce that thou
eatest withall is better.

By God, I have eaten it with as
good a stomacke, as if I had eaten
nothing all this day before: then I
with a low voyce said, God send
mee to live long, as sure as that is
true: and having ended his victuals,
he commanded mee to reach him the

pot

He had
fasted un-
till then,

The Spaniards Life.

pot of water, which I gave him even
as full as I had brought it from the
River, and it was a signe that si-
thence hee wanted no water, that
the residue of his dinner was but
small, we dranke both, and went to
bed, as the night before, at that time
well satisfied.

And now for to avoyde long
talke, wee continued after this sort
eight or nine dayes: and the poore
Gentleman went every day to brave
it out in the street, to content him-
selfe with his accustomed stately
pace, and alwayes I poore *Lazaro*
was faine to be his Purvior: I often-
times considered my disgraces, that
escaping from evill Masters which I
had, that used me evill, and seeking
better, I happened to meere now
with him, who not onely did not
maintaine mee, but whom I was
faine to maintaine, or else he to die:
yet for all that, I loved him well,
percei-

The Spaniards Life.

perceiving that he was able to do no more : yea, and I did pittie him, rather then hate him, for oftentimes with carrying him home wherewith to passe the day, I felt grieve my selfe. One morning the poore Gentleman rose up in his shirt, and went up to the top of the house, to ease himselfe, and in the meane season to bee out of the suspicion that I was in, I unfolded his Doublet and his Hose, which were his Boulster, and there found a little Purse of Velvet, which had a hundred wrinkles in it, but the Divell a penny, nor yet any signe that there had beene any there long time before. Then did I say to my selfe, this man is poore, no man can give that which he hath not: but my covetous blinde man, and my wretched Priest, unto whom God hath given so much goods, the one got with smooth hand, the other gained with his loose tongue, and yet they fami-

shed

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shed mee continually : there was good reason why I should hate such people ; so is there cause, why this mans case should be lamented. God knoweth that when I met with any of his estate, being of like gravity, pice, and countenance, how I pittied them thinking that they did endure that which I did see him daily suffer, whom I had rather serve for all his poverty, than any of the other, for the causes above named. I did like him well, but onely that me thought he was too presumptuous, where I often wished that seeing he so plainly perceived his owne poverty, hee would something have hid his fantastick pride. But as I thinke, it is a common usuall rule amongst such as he, which though they have not a croffe in the world, nor a Denier, the Cap must needs stand in his old place : but if God of his mercy doe not order the matter, all such are

H

like

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like to dye of that vile disease.

As I continued in such estate, sustaining the life that I have told you, my evill fortune which never ceased to pursue mee, would not yet suffer mee to continue in that troublesome and shamefull kinde of life. For the matter happened thus: The Lords of the Councell made Proclamation with sound of Trumpet, because that that yeare there was scarcity of Corne, all poore people being strangers, should forsake the Citie, upon paine that hee which from thenceforth should bee taken, should be punished with stripes: and to executing the Law, within three dayes after the Proclamation, I saw a whole Proceffion of poore folke whipped thorow the foure principall streets, which sight did so feare mee, that never after I durst venture to beg. Then might you have seene a strange dyet we kept at home, and the

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the great silence that was there, so that we were constrained to fast two or three dayes together, without eating any morsell, or speaking a word: and as for mee, the best shift I made, was amongst certaine poore women, which were Spinners and Cap-knitters, which saved my life, by reason of the acquaintance I had with them, being our neere neighbours: For of that meate they had, I should have a little, wherewith I did not so lament mine owne case, as I did my poore Masters, which in eight dayes did not eate one morsell, at the least, we were so long at home without meate: but indeed I know not whither he went, nor what hee did eate abroad, yet notwithstanding, for all this, you should see him come sometimes up the street with a body as large as any Greyhounds of good race, and for to maintaine his poore honour, hee was

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Small need
to pick his
teeth for a-
ny meat
he had
eaten.

wont to take a straw in his hand,
whereof also there was want in our
house, and standing without the
dore, would therewith picke those
which had little need of picking,
for any thing that had sticke in them
with eating. Lamenting still the un-
lucky esse of that house, he would
say it grieveth me, to see how all our
sorrow commeth of this house, thou
seest how uncomfortable and darke
it is, and as long as wee dwell heere,
wee are like to be thus tormented,
therefore I would to God the mo-
neth were ended that wee might de-
part out of it.

Six pence
English.

And as wee continued in this af-
flicted and famishing persecution,
one day a ryall entered into the po-
wer of my Master, I know not by
what good lucke and adventure,
wherewith hee came home so blow-
ing, as if hee had brought with him
the whole treasure of Venice, and so
with

The Spaniards Life.

with a merry and lively coun-
tenance hee giveth it to mee, saying,
take here *Lazaro*, now God begin-
neth to open his hand, and to smile
upon us, goe quickly to the Market-
place, and buy bread, wine and flesh,
that we may breake the Devils envi-
ous eye: and furthermore, because
thou shalt have good cause to re-
joyce, thou shalt understand, that I
have hired another house, therefore
the moneth once ended, wee will no
longer abide in this miserable un-
lucky house, cursed be it, and he that
laide the first Tile on it, for in a vill
time did I come in. By our Lord
all the time that I have bene heere,
I never dranke drop of Wine, nor a
morsell of flesh entred into my bel-
ly, nor yet have I had any rest in it,
such is the sorrow and misery that
belongeth to it, goe thy wayes and
make speede, and let us dine this day
like Earles. Then I tooke my ryall

Belike
some game
sters had
given it
him and
it was full
time.

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and my pot, and with all haste, I began to goe up the street, towards the Market place, with joy and mirth. But what profiteth all this, now that I am borne under such a Planet that I can never enjoy any pleasure long, without hindrance, (it appeareth so now) for as I went on my way, making my account how I should bestow my money upon that which should bee most profitable and best, giving infinite thankes to God (that he had given my Master that money) upon a sudden I might see right before me a dead Coarse come down the street, accompanied with many Priests, and other people: I leaned to the wall to give them place, and the Coarse went by; I might see a woman which belike was the dead mans wife, following the Biere, all in mourning weeds, accompanied with other women, and she weeping and lamenting, said; O my husband

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husband and my Lord, alas, whether do they carry you? to the uncomfortable and sad house, to the darke and sorrowfull house, to the house where they never eate nor drinke? When I had heard her speake these words, me thought heaven and earth had mer, and I said, O unfortunate wretch that I am, they carry this dead Course to our house: wherefore I forsooke my way, and brake in betweene the people, and running downe the street as fast as ever I could, I got into the house, & when I had entred therein, I locked the doore with all haste, calling out to my Master for helpe, and embracing him, I desired his aide to keepe them out: whereof he was somewhat amazed, thinking it had beene some other matter, said, what is the matter Boy? what ayleth thee to cry out so? why doest thou locke the dore with such fury? O sir (then

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I answered,) I pray you helpe mee, for they bring us in here a dead coarſe. How ſo ſaid hee? I met the coarſe above in the ſtreet, and his wife followed him, ſaying, O my husband and my Lord, whither doe they carry you? to the uncomfortable and ſad houſe, to the darke and ſorrowfull houſe, to the houſe where they never eat nor drinke? Therefore without doubt, ſir, they doe bring him in heere to you. Now truly when my Maſter heard this, although he had no great cauſe to be joyfull, he laughed ſo earneſtly, that hee ſtood a good while and could not ſpeake. In this meane ſeaſon, I had barred the doore, and for more ſurety, had laid my ſhoulders faſt againſt it. The people paſſed by with their coarſe, and yet ſtill I was afraid, and durſt not remove, leaſt they ſhould bring him in: and when my Maſter had ſatiſfied himſelfe with

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with laughing, though not with meate, hee ſaid unto me, truly *Lazarus*, thou haſt ſaid the truth, and according to the widowes crying words, thou haſt good reſon to ſuſpect that which thou haſt ſaid: but now, ſeeing that God hath dealt better with us then ſo, and that they are paſt us, open the doore, and goe to buy us ſome meate. Sir, then ſaid I, let them firſt be all paſt. In the end, my Maſter came and opened the doore againſt my will, and it was as much as he could doe, I held it ſo hard, being in great feare. Then hee cauſed me to returne to my voyage, and although we dined well that day, notwithstanding, I found no taſte at all in my meate, nor within three dayes after, I never recovered my owne colour, and as often as the remembrance of theſe vaine things came to my Maſters minde, hee was never able to ſtay himſelfe from laughing

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laughing. After such sort I continued a time with this my third poore Master, which was a Squire, seeking continually occasion to know his estate, & for what cause hee had come to dwell in this Citie, for I perceiued that hee was a stranger, long before, by reason that hee had so little acquaintance with those of the Citie. Finally, my wish was accomplished, and I understood that which I coveted to know: for upon a day, after that hee had dined reasonably well, he being at that time indifferently well satisfied, declared unto me his affaires, in so much that hee certified mee, that hee was borne in *Castilia* the old, and how that hee had forsaken his Countrey for nothing in the world, but because hee would not abase himselfe so much as put off his Cap to a Gentleman his neighbour: and having heard all his discourse, I said unto him, fir,

if

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if he were such a one as you say, and besides that, if hee were richer than you, it had beene but your duety to put off your Cap first to him, for I beleeeve hee would have done the like to you: indeed hee is a Gentleman, and richer than I, and hee would alwayes put off his Cap to the uttermost, when I did put off mine, but seeing that oftentimes mine was first off, reason would have required, that his should once have beene first, and so have wonne of me by quicke hand the courtesie. As for me, said I, I would never have had regard to that. Thou art a childe, said hee, and therefore thou knowest not what doth belong to honour, which at this day is the onely retuge of such as bee honest: therefore thou shalt understand, that I am as thou seest a poore Esquire, and I make a vow to God, that if I should meet in the midst of the street an Earle, that

would

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would not put his cap altogether off, as well as I doe mine, the next time I see him come, I will enter into some house, as if I had some businessse there, or else crosse over into an other streete, if there bee any betweene mee and him, so that I shall not neede to put off my cap to him, for a Gentleman is bound to none but to God and the Prince, and therefore it is reason that an honest man shall be curious to esteeme his owne person. I doe remember that upon a day, I dishonoured, and had almost beaten a Crafts-man where I was borne, because that whensoever he met me, he would say, *Mantenga Dios a v.m.* which is to say, Sir, God maintaine your worship: I tooke him once with the deede, and said, How now sir Clowne, what meane you by this, who hath so instructed you, doth it become you to say unto me, God maintaine you, even as

I

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I were one of the common sort? From thenceforth he would put off his Cap to me a farre off, and salute mee as hee ought. Why sir, said I, was not that kinde of salutation good enough for any man, is it not sufficient, for a man to say, God maintaine your Mastership? hee answered angerly, thou must know in an evill houre, that that kinde of salutation is used to a meane man, but no man ought to salute one of my estate after such a sort but alwayes hee ought to say, *Beso las manos de v.m.* which is as much to say, as I kisse your worships hands, or at the least *Beso Señor las manos*, I doe kisse your hands, if so bee that he that salureth me be a Knight or a Gentleman: so from that day forward I could never abide to heare talke of maintenance, nor suffer any man unlesse it were the King, to say unto me, sir God maintaine you.

Alas

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Alas wretch that I am (said I to my selfe) that is the cause, that hee hath so little care to maintaine thee, for thou canst abide no man to wish it thee.

Furthermore he said, I am not so poore, but that I have in my countrey, ground, where foundation of houses is well and surely laid, which if they were built up as they ought, sumptuous and great, and by exchange placed in *Valladolid*, sixteene miles on this side the place where I was borne, they would be worth no lesse then a thousand Maravedis: and I have a Dove-house, which if it were built up, as it is now false, it would yeeld mee yearly above two hundred Pigeons: besides other things which I will not now speake of, all which things I forsooke, for matters which touched mine honor, and came to this Citie, meaning to serve one of the chiefe Nobles, but
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Two and
thirty a-
ravedis, is
vi. pence
English.

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it happened otherwise with mee: I finde indeede many Doctors and Prebends belonging to the Church, but they keepe such modest orders, that all the world is not able to bring them out of their pace: many Gentlemen, which are of the basest sort, covet to have mee; but to serve such men is great travell, for from a man, you must become a Cloke-bag, or else they will straight bid you farewell, and most commonly, their wages is paid with long termes, sometime your meat and drinke onely, for your painefull service.

And when they mean to reforme their conscience, and to consider the servants paine, there shall be delivered out of the Ward-robe, some cut-doublt, or some thred-bare Cloke, or Coat: But when a man serveth a Noble-man of the Order, hee shall better passe over his misery: but
perad-

peradventure, there is not in mee ability to serve and to content such men.

By God, if I had met with any one of them, I thinke certainly, I should quickly have beene chiefe of his Councell, for I would have done him a thousand kinde of services. I could have dissembled as well as any other, yea, and pleased him a thousand fold, that it would have beene marvellous; I would have smiled merrily at his doings, although they had not beene the best in the world: I would never have recited that which should have displeased him, no although it had beene much for his profit, most diligent about his person, in word and deed, never vexing my selfe about the well doing of things, that should never come to his sight, but sometimes have chid such as served, where hee might heare me, that I might seeme
to

to be carefull, about that which touched him: and whensoever he should happen to fall out with any of his men, then would I put forth two or three smooth words, to set him forward, which should seeme to be in the favour of the offender, affirming alwayes that which I thought hee liked of: and on the contrary side, a malicious mocker of the ignorant and rude sort. Furthermore, I would alwayes demand and procure, how to know the lives of strangers, to account them unto him, with other such trickes of like quality, which at this day are used in great Palaces and Courts, and which please the chiefe dwellers hereia, which cannot abide to see in their houses vertuous men, but doe abhor, and esteeme them as naught, despising and calling them fooles, and ignorant in the traffique of waighty affaires, so that the Lord
I cannot

cannot safely trust to their simple doings in waighy matters : therefore now adayes, those that are subtil and crafty, get into favour, and use such means as I would have used, if fortune would have suffered mee to have found out such a noble Lord.

After this sort, my master lamented his evill fortune, making relation unto mee, what a valiant person hee was. And being in such talke, there commeth in to us, a man, and an old woman, the man demanded the rent of the house, and the woman the hire of the bed, and there made straightwayes accounts, so that hee for two moneths, was indebted more than hee was able to pay in a whole yeere. I thinke his debts came to twelve, or thirteene ryals of plate : hee gave them gentle answers, that hee would goe to the market-place, to change a double peece of gold,

gold, desiring them to come againe in the evening, but his departure was without returne.

When evening came, they returned, but it was too late, wherefore I told them, that hee was not yet come : the night being come, and hee not, I was afraid to lie alone in the house, therefore I went to my neighbours, and there declared unto them the whole matter, and there lay all night.

The next day in the morning, the Creditors came and enquired for my Master (but at the other doore I must tell you,) unto whom the women answered : There is his servant, with the key of the doore : They demanded mee for him, I answered, That I knew not where he was, for hee was not come home, since hee went abroad to change his gold, and that therefore I thought that he was gone both from them and mee, with the
I 2 exchange.

exchange. When they heard mee say so, they goe straight and seeke a Sergeant and Scrivener, and as soone as they had brought them thither, without delay they tooke the Key, and opened the doore in the presence of witnesses, and entred in to sequester on my Masters goods, that the debt might bee paid them: But when they had sought the house all over, they found it as empty as I have told you; wherefore they demanded of me, whither my Masters goods were conveyed, his Chests, his Tapestry, and his household stuffe. I answered, saying, I know nothing that hee hath, Sir. Without doubt they have beene taken away this night, say they, and carryed to some other place, therefore master Sergeant, take hold on this Boy, for he knoweth all.

Then the Officer approacheth unto mee, and taking fast hold on the collar

collar of my Coat, said; Thou art prisoner, unlesse thou tell where thy Master his goods are become: but as never no man had taken hold on me in that place before, saving onely my blinde Master, who never laid hand on mee so rudely, but gently, that I might lead him that could not see, I was afraid, and crying mercy, I promised to tell all that they demanded. Goe to then, say they, say on Gods name what thou knowest, and be not afraid: the Scrivener sitteth downe in hast to write the inventory, demanding what goods hee had.

I then began to declare what I knew, saying; Sir, the goods that he hath or at least, that which he told me he had, was a peece of ground, where foundation of houses is laid, and moreover a Dove-house which is false. Well said (say they) my Boy, though that hee

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little worth, it is sufficient to pay us. In what place of the City standeth it ? (say they.) I answered, Mary it standeth a good way hence in his owne Countrey. The matter is then in a faire case (say they) but where is his Countrey ? He told mee, that he was borne in *Castilia* the old. The Sergeant and the Scrivener laughing apace, said, This confession is sufficient for you to recover the deb (though it were greater.) The neighbours that were there present, said, This child is an innocent, and hee hath not dwelt long with the Squire, therefore hee knoweth no more of him than you doe ; he hath oftentimes come to us, and we have giuen him such meat as we had, for Gods sake, and at nights gone in, to ly with his master : when they perceived mine innocency, they did set me at liberty. The Sergeant and the Scrivener did demand of the man
and

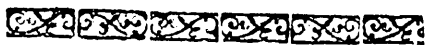
The Spaniards Life.

and the woman their fee, whereupon there rose great contention, and they alleged that they were not bound to pay, seeing that there was no execution made, especially, seeing there was not wherewithall. The Officers alleged, for that comming thither, they had left undone matters of much greater importance.

Finally, after many angry words, a poore Carrier was loden with the old mattresse, which was the womans, scant halfe a lode to the Bearer. Then went they all five out together chiding, what became of them after, I know not ; I beleeve the poore mattresse paid for all. And thus, as I tell you, I lost my third master, when as I fully perceived e-vill fortune wrought altogether against mee, insomuch, that my affaires went so backward, that where-as Masters are wont to bee forsaken of their servants, it was not so with
I 4 mee,

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mee, but my Master was faine to forsake mee, yea, and runne away in haste.



How Lazaro placeth himselfe to dwell with a Fryer of the Abbey of Grace.

L Was then constrained to seeke the fourth Master, which was a Fryer of the Abbey of Grace, unto whom the poore women, which I have told you of, preferred me. They called him couzen. This man was an enemy to the Quire, not liking well of his Meales in the Covent; a man lost for going abroad, desirous to see worldly affaires and visitations, wherefore I thinke, that he alone did teare

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teare moe shooes, than all the rest of of his brethren: It was he that gave me the first shooes that ever I wore in all my life, which lasted me but eight dayes; for he never left trotting abroad: wherefore for this, and for other small matters, which at this time I will not speake of, I was faine to forsake him.



How Lazaro placeth himselfe with a Pardoner, and what things happened to him in his service.

I Met by evill chance with the fifth Master, which was an Vtterer of Pardons, the deceitfullest Merchant, and the most shamelesse that

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that ever I did see, or any man else : For to dispatch away his pardons, he had fine means and traffique, and daily imagined therefore most subtile inventions.

As soone as hee arived to such townes, where hee should utter his pardons, he would first present some gift of small value or substance to the Priests and Curates of that place ; sometimes a Cabadge-lettice, a couple of Lemmons, or Orenge ; otherwhiles an Apricock, or else a couple of Peaches, or at least, to every one a faire Peare : and by that meanes hee went about to make them his friends, that they might favour his affaires, and cause their Parishioners to receive the pardons : Yes, and that they should thanke him, he would alwayes be informed before he came, which were learned, and which not. When hee came to those, which hee understood were learned,

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learned, he would be sure never to speake word of Latin, for feare of stumbling : but used in such places, a gentle kinde of *Castilian Spanish*, his tongue alwayes at liberty : and contrariwise, whensoever hee was informed of the reverend *Domines*, (I meane such as are made Priests, more for money, than for learning and good behaviour) to heare him speake amongst such men, you would say it were *S. Thomas* : for he would then, two houres together talk Latin, at least which seemed to bee, though it was not.

When that they received not his pardons friendly, he sought meanes to make them to take them perforce : So that oftentimes, he therefore molested the Parishioners, otherwiles causing them to receive them by subtile inventions. And now, seeing it were too long to account all such parts as I did see him use,

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use, I will recite one, whereby hee shewed right well, how sufficient hee was. He had preached two or three dayes in a Village, within the Diocesse of the Arch-Bishop of *Toledo*, without omitting any part of his accustomed diligence, and the people had not taken one pardon, nor no man (as farre as I could perceive) was minded to receive any: wherefore he was in great rage.

And as he imagined what hee had best to doe, determined to invite and bid all the people to come thither the next day, so to dispatch his pardons, and that night after Supper, he and his Sergeant went to play for their break-fast, and as they played, they fell at such debate, that the one gave evill words to the other: Infomuch, that at the last he said to his Sergeant, That he was a Theefe; and the Sergeant answered, saying, That he was a Falsifier: wherefore the Com-

The Spaniards Life.

Commissary my Master laid hand upon a short Pike that stood behinde the doore, where they played; and the Sergeant on the other side, put hand to his sword, which hung by his side: so that with the great noyse that wee made, our Hoste and our neighbours came in, and went betweene them: then they being fore angry, sought all meanes to come together, that the one might kill the other: But the house was so full of people, that they could by no meanes come nigh to one another, wherefore they never left giving one another injurious words, infomuch, that the Sergeant said to my Master, that hee was a Falsifier, and that the pardons which he preached of daily, were most false.

To be brieve, when the people perceived, that they could by no meanes pacifie them, they determined to carry the Sergeant away to another

Pardoners have alwaies with them a Sergeant, to take up gages in such houses, as refuse to pay for their pardon at the time appointed.

another lodging, and my master remained still there in great rage.

Whereupon our Host, with his neighbours, desired him heartily that hee would forget his anger, and goe to bed : and so then wee went all to sleepe. As soone as day appeared in the morning, my Master went to the Church, and caused them there to ring to Masse, and to Sermon, that hee might dispatch his Pardons : then the people assembled together, murmuring amongst themselves at the Pardons, saying, That they were false and nothing worth, seeing that the Sergeant himselfe had affirmed the same : So that before that time, they having small minde to receive any, they then utterly abhorred them.

Master Commissarie mounteth up into the Pulpit, and beginneth his Sermon, encouraging the people not to forsake such great goodnesse
and

and indulgence, as the holy pardon contained : and being in the midst of his Sermon, the Sergeant cometh in at the Church doore, and when that hee had ended his prayers, hee rose up suddenly, and with a loud voyce discreetly said, Yee honest and godly people, give eare that I may tell you a word or two, and then heare whom ye will. I am come hither in the company of this crow-keeper which now preacheth, who hath deceived mee, promising, that if I would helpe him in his affaires, I should have halfe the gaines. But now perceiving the damage that my conscience should receive, and besides that, the losse of your goods, I doe earnestly repent that which I have done, and I will tell you plainly, that the pardons which hee hath brought, are false : therefore yee ought not to beleieve him, nor yet take any one of them. As for mee,

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All Sergeants in Spaine do beare a white rod in their hands, higher than themselves by halfe a foote as big as a mans finger. They were no Lords, every man is of honour there.

I will neither bee partaker with him, one way or other, therefore from this time forward, I doe forsake the rod of them, which I now cast to the ground: for if hereafter hee bee punished for his falshood, you may bee witnesse with mee that I am no doer with him herein, nor yet helpe him, but doe rather bewray unto you his craft and falshood: and when hee had said all, certaine men of honour which were there, would needs have cast him out of the Church, to avoyde slander: but my Master did forbid them so to doe, commanding them all upon paine of excommunication, to suffer him to say all that euer he could, and he himselfe kept Silence whiles that the Sergeant declared all that which I have rehearsed: and as soone as hee held his tongue, my Master demaunding him whether hee would say any more: the Sergeant answered, there may be much

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much more said of thee, and of thy falshood, but at this time this is sufficient.

Then my master Commisarie falling downe upon his knees in the pulpit, holding up his hands, his eyes looking up to heaven, said these words: O Lord God, from whom nothing is hid, unto whom all things are manifest, and unto whom nothing is impossible, who can doe all things, thou knowest the truth, and how unjustly I am accused and slandered: as for mee (O Lord) I forgive him, that thou maist forgive me. Have no regard to him that knoweth not what hee doeth nor sayeth: notwithstanding, O Lord, I doe beseech thee, and through justice I demand of thee, that thou wilt not dissemble this injurie which is done unto thee. Peradventure, some that are here present, were minded to take this divine pardon,

K

which

which now will not, giving place and credit to the wicked mans words: and because this matter is so hurtfull to Christian neighbours, I beseech thee once againe good Lord, that thou wilt not dissemble it, but immediatly, that it may please thee to shew here a miracle, and that it may be thus: if it be true that this man saith, that is, that the Pardons which I have here are false, that this Pulpit may then sinke with mee, as farre as the depth of seaven men under the ground, that neither it nor I may never bee seene againe. And on the other side, if that be true which I say, that hee being perswaded by the devill, hath said these words falsely and untruly, onely to derrive the people of such goodnesse, that then it may also please thee to punish him, that his malicious perversitie may bee knowne to all men.

My

My devout master had scant ended his prayers, but that the poore Sergeant fell in a trance, giving himselfe such a blow against the ground, that all the Church founded of it, stretching out his body with great abundance of sowe at his mouth, making strange vitages, and striking the ground both with hand and foote, tumbling up and downe from one side to another: In so much that the noyse which the people made, was so great, that one could not heare another. Some were amazed and sore afraid, saying, God bee his helpe; and other said, Hee hath that which hee hath deserved, seeing that he durst affirme such fallhood.

Finally some of those that were there, which to my judgement were not without great feare, came neere to hold fast his hands wherewith hee strooke all such as came neere him. Others held him fast by the feet, for

K 2

there

there was never false moyle in the world that ever kicked so fast : and so they held him a good while. There were above xv. men upon him, and he gave them all their hands full : so that if they had forgotten their businesse, hee would have given some of them overthwart the teeth. All this while my master was in the pulpit upon his knees, holding his hands together still, his eyes bent towards heaven, transported into such divine essence, that all the noyse and rumour which was in the Church, was not sufficient to bring him out of his divine contemplation. Certaine honest men that were there, came unto him, and awaked him by force of crying, desiring that it might please him to succour the poore man that was a dying, and that hee should not regard that which had passed, nor yet his evill words, seeing that now hee had received

ceived punishment therefore, but that if hee could helpe him any way how to escape that perill and danger that hee was in, that hee would so do for Gods sake : and as for them, they plainly perceived that hee was in the fault, and so likewise that they knew his truth and goodnesse, seeing that at his petition, the Lord straightwayes for revengement, sent him punishment.

Then my master the commissary, like one that had awaked out of a gracious sleepe, beholdeth them, and also the patient, with all those that were about him, and said : Ye honest men, yee ought not to pray for one, on whom God hath so manifestly shewed his power ; but seeing that hee hath commanded that wee shall not render evill for evill, but rather that wee shall pardon all injuries, to be able to make supplication unto him, that wee may fulfill that which

The Spaniards Life.

hee commanded us. And now that his majestie (being by him offended) may forgive him, so to shew miracles of true faith, let us goe altogether with humble heart, and pray to him. Wherefore hee came downe out of the Pulpit, commanding such as were there present, most devoutly to pray to our Lord, that it might please him, through his grace, to pardon the sinner, and to restore him to his health and bodily senses againe: And moreover, if his divine majestie had permitted any evill spirit to enter into him for his offences, that it might please him likewise, to drive it out againe. Incontinently they fell all upon their knees, before the Altar, and with the Priests they began to sing with lowe voyce, the Lerany, and the Commissary my master, having song over him, came with the crosse and holy water, holding up his hands, and his eyes bent towards heaven,

The Spaniards Life.

heaven, that one might see nothing of them but a little white, began his prayer no lesse devout than long, wherewith hee made those that were there present to weepe, as they were wont to doe at the Sermons of the passion; and he as a devout preacher, desired almighty God (seeing that he desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that hee shall repent and live) to pardon, forgive and restore to life, that poore sinner which was led by the devill, overcome with death and sinne, that he might repent and confesse his sinnes: when he had so done, he sent for one of the Pardons, and laid it upon his head, whereupon immediatly the poore Sergeant began to amend, and by little and little, to returne to himselfe. And as soone as hee had recovered his senses, he kneeleth downe at master Commissaries feet, and there demanded pardon, confessing

how that hee had said and done all those things, by the mouth and instruction of the devill, as well to give him griefe, and to be revenged on him, as also because the devill was sorry to see the goodnesse which people received by taking the holy pardons. My master did then forgive him, and friendship was made betweene them.

Then was there such great haste to rake pardons, that almost no creature living in that towne, but tooke one, the husband, and the wife, sons and daughters, men-servants and maid-servants, there was none but would have one.

This newes was spread abroad through all the towns there about, so that wee then being come thither, it was not needfull to preach, nor yet to goe to the Church to dispatch the Pardons : for the people came so fast to our lodging for them, as if they

they had beene peates that had beene given them for nothing : in so much that my master dispatched and uttered away ten or twelve thousand Pardons in ten or twelve little villages thereabouts, without preaching one sermon. And as for my part, I will confesse my ignorance, for when this their invention was tried, I was in a great marvell to see such a strange case, and I thought the matter had beene so indeed, as many other did : yet notwithstanding, when I perceived once the Jestings and scoffing that my master and the Sergeant would make at the matter by the way, I understood plainly, that all that counterfeited shew was invented by my masters subtile industrious art. And although I was of tender yeares, yet I tooke great pleasure to consider their doings, and would say to my selfe : How many are there such as these that deceive the

the

The Spaniards Life.

the simple people. To conclude, I continued with this first master neere foure moneths, during which time I suffered much sorrow.

How Lazaro dwelleth with a Chaplaine, and what happened to him in his service.



Afterward I entred into service of a painter of drums, unto whom I tempered colours, with whom I suffered a thousand evils; and as I was then of good bignesse, entring one day into the great Church, one of the Chaplaines received me for his owne, and gave mee in government an Asse, with foure great tankerds, and a whip, to sell water up and downe the

The Spaniards Life.

the Citie, and this was the first staire I climbed up to come to attaine unto a good life: for my mouth had then the measure. I delivered up daily to my master in gaine thirty *Maravedis*, and on every Saturday I laboured for my selfe, and all the week also, whatsoever I could earne over thirtie *Maravedis* a day, was mine owne. This office was so good, that at foure yeares end I had spared with my wages and my gaines so much as bought mee apparrell honestly, with old stufte, whereof I bought an old black sultian doublet, and a coate thred-bare with gathered sleeves and whole before, and a cloke that had beene of selzado, and a sword of the old making, one of the first of *Cuellar*. And perceiving my selfe then in apparell like an honest man, I desired my master to take his Asse againe, and that I would no more follow that office.

They doe carry water up and downe the citieto sell upon Asses, with tourne and sometimes six tankards for they have no water but from the river.

How

*How Lazaro dwelleth with a
Sergeant, and what happened
to him in his service.*



After that I had taken my leave of the chaplaine, I did place my selfe with a Sergeant, to be a member of Iustice : but I dwelled few dayes with him, for in short time I perceived that it was a dangerous office, especially when that certaine transgressours, which retired into a church, chased my master and mee marvellously with stones and staves : and at that present time my master (whom I tarried for) was evill handled, but they could never overtake mee : yet for all that, I did forswear the office. And as I imagined what kinde of life I had best lead that I might provide

A man
may scape
in Spaine
the hands
of the offi-
cers of Ius-
tice if they
can flee in
to some
church, so
it be not
cheft, trea-
sure or re-
ligion.

provide something against mine old age, God by his grace lightned my minde to finde out the profitable way : So that through the favour which I had of my friends and masters, all the sorrowes, which before that time I had sustained, were recompenced with an office royall, which I obtained : the which I pretended, because that at this day there is no account but of them that have where withall.

So that at this present, I live in mine office, and exercise it to Gods service and yours. Sir, it is so that I have the charge to crie the wines that are sold in this Citie, and to make inquirance, with open cry, for things that have been lost, and when any suffer persecution by justice, I doe accompany them, declaring with loud voyce their offence. I am (in plaine language) a common cryer. Sir, matters have so well gone for-

The Ca-
er, in
Spaine do
sell all kind
of stuffe,
and when
any is
whipt
thence
the Citie,
goeth be-
fore him
declaring
with loud
voyce
what hee
hath done.

forward with mee, and I have used my selfe so well, that in manner all things belonging to the office, passe through my hands. In so much, that looke whosoever within this citie doth broach wine, or sell any thing, and that *Lazarillo de Tormes* bee not present, they make account never to get gaine.

In this meane time, master Archdeacon of saint *Salvador*, your friend and servant at commandement, having knowledge of my person and abilitie, especially since I had cryed his wine, went about to marry mee with his maide. And after that I had considered, that with having to doe with such a man as master Archdeacon was, I could not receive but honestie and goodnesse, I determined to doe it, so that I tooke her to wife, whereof hitherto I doe not repent: for besides that she is honest, and a diligent wench, I finde great favour and

and helpe at master Archdeacons hand, for every yeare from one time to another, he giveth her as good as a load of wheat, and against Christmas or Easter, some good morcell of flesh, a couple or two of loaves, and such old hofe as hee leaveth : and he caused us to hire a little house neere his dwelling : on every Sunday and holyday wee dined (most commonly) in his owne house. But evill tongues which never cease, would not suffer us to live in peace, they would say this and that, and that they did see my wife goe and make his bed, and dresse his meat. But God helpe them better than they say truth. For besides that, she is a woman that doth not delight in such game, master Archdeacon hath promised mee that which I trust hee will fulfill.

For upon a time in her presence he said at large unto me, *Lazaro de Tormes*

The Spaniards Life.

Tormes, hee that will have regard to
euill tongues, shall never get profit.
I say thus much unto thee, I can ne-
uer marvell, though some men mur-
mure to see thy wife come in and out
of my house: which doing, I pro-
mise thee, shall not otherwise re-
dound but to thy great honesty and
hers. Therefore let people haue their
words, haue thou onely regard to
that which shall bee for thy profit.
I answered him, saying, Sir, I haue
determined to joyne my selfe with
those that are good, but truth it is,
that certaine of my friends haue
warned me of this, yea, and more-
ouer they haue twice or thrice certi-
fied mee with other, that before shee
was married to me shee had two or
three children, be it spoken under
your master-ships correction, seeing
that shee is present. My wife began
then to giue such oathes, that I
thought the house would haue sunk
with

The Spaniards Life.

with us all, and then began to weep,
cursing the time that euer she marri-
ed mee, in so much that I wished my
selfe dead, when that I let scape that
word out of my mouth. But I on
the one side and my master on ano-
ther, said so much, that she left wee-
ping: and I did sweare unto her, that
as long as I lived, I would neuer a-
gaine use the like talke: and how that
I reioiced and was well content,
that shee should come in and out
both day and night, seeing that her
honesty and faithfulnessse was so wel
knowne. So then we remained all
three with one accord untill this
day, and neuer no man heard us si-
thence reason of that matter. And
from that time forward, whensoever
I could happen to heare any man
talke of this, I would straight breake
off his matter, and say unto him,
Looke if thou be my friend, speake
nothing that shall grieue mee, for I

L

do

doe not take him for my friend that
caused me to sorrow, especially that
goeth about to sowe discord be-
tweene me and my wife, whom I
loue better than any thing in this
world, considering how that by her
means, God hath done more for
me than I haue deserued: and I dare
swear by the holy sacrament, that
she is as honest a woman as any that
dwelleth within the foure gates of
Toledo: and he that saith the contra-
rie, I will bestow my life upon him.
So from thence forward, they never
durst moue any such matter unto
me, and I had peace alwaies in my
house, This was the same yeare that
our victorious Emperour entered in-
to his noble citie of *Toledo*, where
his court was kept with great feastes
and triumphs, as your mastership
hath heard: finally it was then that
I was in my prosperitie, and in my
chiefest time of good aduenture.

Lazaro

*Lazaro declareth the friend-
ship that certaine High
Dutchmen shewed him, and
what happened betwene
them.*

BEing now in the top
of my prosperitie, ha-
ving fortune my friend,
I never went without a
bottle of the best wine in
the City, of the very same I carried a-
bout mee (being a common Cryer)
to give a tast to as many as were
willing to buy: by vertue of which
wine, I purchased so many Gentle-
men my friends, as well Inhabitants
there, as strangers, that wheresoever
I came, the doore should straight be
opened for mee. And I was so fa-

L 2 uoured

The Spaniards Life.

noured every where, that if I had chanced to haue slaine a man, or to commit some haynous offence, all the world would straight wayes haue beene on my side, being assured that those Gentle-men, being the Kings Guard, would sufficiently both sue-cour and help me.

Therefore, whensoever wee met, I never suffered them to depart dry-mouthed away, but did carry them with me to the best wine I had broched in the City, where oftentimes we went in upon our owne feet, and came out, either without any, or at the least with strange feet.

And that which I liked best of all, was, that all the time I kept them company, the Deuill a blanke *Lazarro de Tormes* did pay, nor that they would consent he should pay. For, whensoever I did put my hand to my purse (for manners sake only) they would take it in euill part, and beholding

The Spaniards Life.

beholding me angerly, would say, *Nitte, Nitte. Asticor lanz;* and so reprehending me, would alledge, that where they were in company, no man should pay a blanke: wherefore I was greatly in love with these people: and it was not onely that serued our turne but as often as we met, wee should haue also slices of bacon, peeces of legs of mutton sod in that pleasant wine, with all manner of fine spice, and therewith they would fill, both my bosome and skirts, enough for my wife and mee a whole weeke.

The world being then so plentiful, I would call to remembrance the hungry fits I had sustained in times past, praising the Lord, and giuing him thankes, that the world now at the length was so well changed. But, as the proverbe saith: He that will doe good to thee, will either goe his way, or die. And so it

The Spaniards Life.

happened to me, the Court remooving, as it is wont to doe, and my friends following it, at their departing I was desired by them, that I would beare them company, promising to shew me much friendship and fauour.

But remembring the old proverb: Better is the evill knowne, than the good which is yet to know, thanking them for their good will, and desiring their fauour, after many sighs and sorowfull embracings, I tooke my leaue, and they departed. And truly, had I beene unmarried, I would never haue so forsaken their company, for indeede they were people, much of my nature and disposition. And it was a gracious, and not a phantasticall, nor a presumptuous life they did leade.

A man should never see them scrupulous, nor nice, to enter into a Taverne, but would goe in boldly,

(yea

The Spaniards Life.

(yea, with cap in hand) if the wine for goodnesse deserved so much. They were plaine men, full of all honesty & gentle courtesie, & so well provided at all times, that I would to God, when I am a thirst, I might alwayes meet with such men. Notwithstanding, the love which I bare to my wife, and to my Countrey (which now I take for mine owne native, because men doe commonly say; Whence art thou, honest man?) caused me to stay at home. So I continued ever since in this Citie, leading a solitary life for the losse of my friends & courtly life, although that I was well knowen of all the Citizens.

Afterwards, I liued very well at mine owne ease, with encrease of ioy and kindred, for the birth of a trim little daughter, which within a little while after my wife brought forth. Whereat I hauing some evill

The Spaniards Life.

suspicion, shee hid sweare all othes,
that I was the father, and that shee
was mine. I continued in this estate,
untill that Fortune thought, that she
had now given mee too much ease,
and that shee thought it reason for
her, to turne backe, and shew me a-
gain, her seruice and cruell visage, to
temper those few yeeres, which I
passed at ease, with as much more
trauell and deadly sorrow, which
now I should endure. O great God,
who is able to write so unfortunate
and miserable a case, but must
let the Inke-horne rest,
and put the penne
to his eyes?

To



To the Reader.

THaugh truth doth purchase hate,
and glosing beareth the bell:
Yet is the man to be lik'd,
that truest tale doth tell,
Without respect of place,
of country, or of kinde:
For so the law of writing doth
each honest writer blinde:
Then Lazaro deserves
no blame, but praise to gaine,
That plainly pens the Spaniards pranks
and how they live in Spaine
He sets them out to shew,
for all the world to see,
That Spaine when all is done is Spaine,
and what those Gallants bee.
The Writer meant but well,
and he that tooke the paine,
To turne it to our mother-tongue,
the Readers thanks would gaine,

for

For all this former toyle,
in penning of the booke,
The suite is small, allow him that,
that hapst thereon to looke.
Though small the volume be,
the value may be great:
Wherefore to yeeld him thy good will,
let this my Muse entreat:
Let Rowland haue reward,
for this his taken paine:
And so thou (Reader) maist perhaps
the like hereafter gaine.

G. Turbeville Gent.

FINIS.

THE
PVRSVIT
OF THE
HISTORIE
OF
Lazarillo De Tormes.

Gathered out of the
ancient Chronicles of Toledo.

By *Iean de Luna*, a Castilian.
And now done into English, and set
forth by the same Author.



Imprinted at London
by E. G. for *William Leake*,

1639.

To the
RIGHT HONOURABLE,
JAMES Lord STRANGE,
M^r. ROBERT STANLEY,
And the
Lady ANNE CARRE,

The Hopefull issue of the Truly
Noble *William*, Earle of *Darby*, and
his vertuous Countesse *Elizabeth*,
a fruitfull Branch of the Anci-
ent and Illustrious
House of Oxford.

T. W. *in humble acknowledgment*
of his Duty and Service to their
Parents themselves, and both the
Families from whence they
are derived.

Dedicateth this strangely recovered.
Continuation of the pleasant History
of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.



CARTA

DEDICATORIA.

Al Illustrissimo y excellentissimo
Senhor Don *Roberto Car de Ancram*,
Cauallero titulado, y de la Camara
Priuada, gran Tesorero de cosas
extraordinarias de su Al-
teça el Principe
de Galles.

Illustriss. y excellentiss. Senhor :



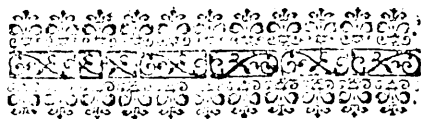
Os cosas me han
mouido a dedicar
a V. S. esta obra :
la vna y mas prin-
cipal es, para mon-
strar en algo la voluntad que
tengo de seruir a quien por tan-
tos

tos títulos lo merece, y a quien estoy tan obligado. La otra para arrimar al pobre *Lazaro* a la sombra, y amparo de quien con su autoridad lo defienda, con su virtud lo adorne, y con su faviduría lo califique. Las verdades desnudas y sin reboço que este libro dize, le han hecho passar por el fuego, para que acri solado llegasse a las manos de Vu. Señoria. He lo hecho traducir en Ingles, fiel, y literalméte, para que se manifieste su inocencia, y vea que en el no ay cosa que passe les limites de una honesta, licita y loable recreacion: antes es una centinela que descubre de lexos los enemigos, y muestra los tropieços

ços y barrancos, en que los ignorantes por falta de advertencia caen, y tropieçan. Supplico a V. S. le reciva con su clementia, y bondad acostumbrada, no echando a atrevimiento, lo que ha nacido del deseo que tengo de emplear mi vida, y fuerças, en servicio de quien soy el mas humilde, y obediente de sus criados.

I. DE LVNA.

M



The
Author to the Reader.

THe occasion (gentle Reader)
of Printing the Second
part of Lazarillo de Tor-
mes hath bin, that there
came to my hands a little
Pamphlet, which treats of his Life without
any likelihood of truth. The greatest part
of it is stuff with telling, how LAZARILLO
fell into the Sea, where he was turned into
a Fish called a Tunny, and lived there
many yeeres, marrying with a shee Tunny,
by whom he had Children as much Fishes as
the father and mother. It relateth also the
Wars that the Tunnies made, LAZARILLO being
their Captaine, and many other Tales as ri-
diculous

To the Reader.

diculous as false, and as ill grounded as foolish. And questionlesse, the Author of it had a mind to utter some foolish dreaime, or some dreamed folly. That Booke (I say) hath been the first motive, that hath moved me to bring to light this second Part, word for word, without adding or diminishing, as I have seene it written in certain scroules kept in the Treasury of Records of the Beggars of Toledo, and as I have heard it a hundred times told by my Granmother and Aunts, by the fireside in the Winter nights, and with the which my Nurse hath reared me. For the better confirmation, I remember how they and others of our neighbours would dispute, How it could be possible that Lazaro could bee so long under water (as is said in this second Part) without drowning? Some held pro, and the others, con. The first quoted Lazaro himselfe; who said, That the water could not get in to him, by reason that

To the Reader.

that he was filled and crammed up to the very mouth. A good old man, well skild in Swimming, to prove that to bee an easie matter, interposed his authority, affirming, That he had seen a man who going to swimme in the river Tagus, dived under water, and remained in certaine Caves from Sunneset untill next morning, that by the Sun-shine he did find the way out: and when as his Parents and friends were weary of bewailing and seeking his Body, to give it buriall, he came forth safe and sound. The other difficulty that they found in his life, was, That no body did take Lazaro for a man, and that as many as saw him, should take him for a Fish. To this answered a good Canon. (who by reason that he was very old did commonly sit in the Sunne among the Dislasse-spinners;) That it was most likely of all, as agreeing with the opinion of many ancient and moderne Writers, as among others, Pliny,

To the Reader.

Ælian, Aristotle, Albertus Magnus, who affirme, That there are certaine Fishes in the Sea, the males they call Tritons, & the females Nereides, and all of them Sea men, who from the girdle upward have the shape of perfect men and from thence downward, of Fishes. And I say: that although that opinion had not beene defended by so well approved Authors, yet the Licence that the Fishermen had from the Lords Inquisitors, might suffice to excuse the Spanish ignorance, seeing it had been a case of Inquisition to have doubted of a matter which their Lordships had consented should be shewne for such. And to this purpose (though out of my compasse) I will relate an accident that befell a labouring man of my Country: which was, That one of the Inquisitors having sent for him, to begge some of his Pearles of him, which hee had heard were excellent; the poore Clowne

not

To the Reader.

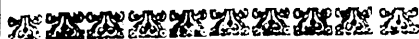
not knowing why his Lordship should send for him, was so skared, that hee fell sicke upon it, till that by the meanes of a friend of his, hee understood the businesse: And then presently starting from his Bed hee ranne into his Garden, pluckt up the Tree by the roote, and presently sent it with the Fruit, saying, hee would not keepe in his house an occasion for their Lordships to send for him another time; so great is the feare that not onely labouring men, and the baser sort of people, but even the Lords and Grands have of them. All of them tremble when they heare these words, Inquisitor, and Inquisition, more than the Leaues upon the Tree with the gentle Zephirus. This is that which I have become willing to warne the Reader of, that he may be the readier to answer, when such questions shall be propounded in his presence

if

To the Reader.

*if hee accept the Second Part, let
him expect the Third, with the Death
and Testament of Lazarillo; which
is the best of all: if not, hee
may at least receive my
good will & are-
well.*

THE



THE
P V R S V I T
OF THE
H I S T O R I E
OF
Lazarillo De Tormes.

Gathered out of the
ancient Chronicles of Toledo.

CHAP. I.

*In the which, Lazaro telleth how hee
parted from Toledo, to goe to the
Warres of Argiers.*



Who hath the best,
and worst doth love,
must not bee grieved
if worst hee prove.
I speake it to this
purpose, that I neither could nor
would containe my selfe in that
good

The pursuit of the History

good course which Fortune had offered me: Change being in mee as an inseparable accident, that accompanied me as well in my best and plenteous, as in my worst and disastrous fortunes; enjoying then the happiest life that ever Patriarch did, eating like an invited Fryer, drinking more then at a Gossiping, better clothed then a Iesuite, and with two round dozens of Ryals in my purse; surer than any Huckster of *Madrid*; my House full, as a Bee hive; a daughter, got in *Capricorne*; and an Office, which the Dog whipper of the Cathedral Church of *Toledo* might well haue enuyed: Newes came of the Expedition for *Argiers* which disquieted me very much, & made me determine (as a good sonne) to follow the steps and track of my good father *Thomas Gonzales* (whom God absolue) with a desire to leaue to

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

to poster ages a pattern and example, not to lead a crafty blinde man, pick: the loose of a couetous Priest, serue a needy thredbare Squire, & lastly to proclaime the faults of other men: but to open the eyes of *Moore*s blinded with errors, to sink and batter the bold and Pyratieall Naue; to serue a valiant Captaine, of the order of *S. Iohn*; with whom I placed my selfe Butler, upon this condition, That whatsoever I should get in warre, should be mine owne, as it was; and lastly, the pattern and example that I meant to leaue, was to encourage & animate, in crying *S. Iames*, and, Stand to it *Spaine*. I took leave of my welbeloued wife, and of my deare daughter: the one intreated me not to forget to bring her a little *Blackamore*; the other desired me to be mindfull to send her by the first Carrier a Slave, to wait upon her, & some *Barbary Cecchines* with

with which she might comfort her selfe in my absence. I asked leaue of the Arch Priest my master, to whose care and custodie I committed both my Wife, and Daughter, who promised mee to deale with them in no worse manner, than if they had beene his owne. I parted from *Toledo* iouiall, stately, and content, (as all are that goe to the *Warres*) putt up with glorious hopes, accompanied with a great number of friends, and neighbours, that went the same voyage, carried with a desire of bettering their fortune. Wee came to *Murcia*, with intention to goe shippe our selues at *Cartagena*: where, there befell mee that which I little wished, to make me know, that Fortune, who had set me on the toppe of her unconstant Wheele, and advanced me to the highest degree of earthly felicitie, began already (in her swift

course)

course) to hurle me downe headlong to the lowest. The chauce was, that comming to our Lodgings, I saw a semy-man, who seemed rather a hee Goat, by reason of his ragged and tottered Garments: his Hat was pulled downe ouer his eyes, so that I could by no meanes see his face; hee leaned his cheeke upon his hand, and had his legges crosse ouer his Sword, which he wore in a halfe Scabbard made of Lists: his Hat (right Beggars Blocke) had no crowne, the better to euaporate the humours of his head: his Doublet was of the *French* fashion, so cut, and slasht with wearing, as there was not a piece left bigge enough, to wrap up halfe a farthing worth of Cummin Seed in: his Shirt was of flesh, which might be seene through the Grate of his Garment; his Breeches were suteable: his Stockings,

the

the one red, the other greene, came scarce to his Anckles, his shoes without soles, were as good to her drawne as carried. By a Cocks Feather which he wore in his Hat, I thought her should be a Souldier: With this imagination, I asked him from whence he was, and whither hee went? He casting up his eyes, to see who he was that questioned him, straight knew me, and likewise I him; it was the Squire whom I had served in *Toledo*: I wa astonished to see him in such a pickle. Hee observing my amazement, said to mee; I marvel not (friend *Lazaro*) if thou dost wonder to see me in this equipage: but anon thou shalt leave wondring, when I have told thee what hath happened unto me, since the time that I left thee in *Toledo* untill now. Returning to my lodging, with the change of my Pistolet to discharge

charge my Creditors, I met with a Woman, close wrapt up in her Veyle; who pulling mee by the Cloake, with teares, and sighes, mingled with sobs, intreated mee earnestly to be favourable unto her in an urgent necessitie. I bad her speake her grieve, which she should be longer in telling, than I in helping. Shee continuing her weeping, with a maidenly shamefastnesse said, that the courtesie which I wast to doe her, and whereof shee was to request me, was, to accompany her unto *Madrid*, where shee was told that a Gentleman was, who not content to have dishonoured her, had also robbed her of all her Jewels, without any regard to the promise of Marriage which hee had given her; and that if I would doe this for her, shee would doe for mee what a thankfull woman is obliged to doe.

I comforted her after the best manner that I could ; giuing her this hope, that if her enemie were to bee found in the Word, shee might hold her selfe already reuenged. To conclude, without any delay we set forwards towards the Court, whitherto I bare all the charges. The good Damsell (that knew well whither she went) carried me to a Band of Souldiers, who receiued her with all chearfulnesse, and brought her before the Captaine, to haue her inrolled for one of their Cockatrices: Then turning her selfe towards me, with a shamelesse and brazen countenance shee said, Farewell Master Lubber, I haue now no more need of you, I seeing my selfe thus gulled began to rage and foame at my mouth, telling her, that if she had beene a man, as well as shee was a woman, I would haue pulled her Soule up
by

by the roots out of her Body. A petty Souldier among the rest rose up to me, and laying his hand vpon my face, made me aduance a Elboones Snowt ; not daring to giue me a boxe on the eare ; which if hee had, his Graue might haue beene digged in the same place. When I saw the matter grow worse and worse, Mum said I, and went my way a little faster than ordinary, to try if some tall fellow or other durst haue followed mee, that wee might haue cut one anothers throat ; for had I encountred with any of the baser stampe, and had killed him (as without doubt I had) what honour or what credite had I gotten? But if the Captaine had come forth, or some Swash-buckler, would haue giuen him more flishes then there is Sand in the Sea. When I perceived that none durst follow me,

I went away very well pleased. After that, I sought for a Service, and because I could not finde such an one as I deserve, I am as thou seest mee. The troth is, that I might have beene Butler or Vsher to five or six Botcher-Wives; Offices, that though I were ready to starve, I would not accept of. Finally my good Master said, that because hee could not meete with certaine Merchants of his Countrey, who would have lent him Money, hee was without it, and knew not whither to goe that Night. I, that straight smelt his meaning, invited him to the halfe of my bed, and Supper; which offer hee willingly accepted. As wee went to Bed, I desired him not to lay his Clothes upon it, because it was too little for so much companie. The next morning, thinking to rise without any

any noyse, I reached my hand to my Clothes, but I found *Blancko*: for the Slave had stolne them, and was gone away with them. I thought verily I should have dyed in my Bed for sorrow: and it had beene farre better for mee, for then had I escaped the many deaths, which since I have suffered. I beganne to cry as loud as I could, Theeves, Theeves; which those of the House hearing, came up, and found mee as a Swimmer new come out of the Water, seeking in every corner of the Chamber something to cover mee, They all fell a laughing, as if they had beene mad, and I a swearing like a Carman. I gave to the devill that Theefe, and bragging Cheater, who halfe the night long had kept me awake, with telling mee the greatnesse of his person and kindred. All the remedie that for that time I could finde (no-
 N^o body

body helping mee with a better) was to trie, if the Garments of that said Braggadocio could fit mee, till God had sent mee some others. But it was a Labyrinth; they had neither beginning, nor ending: there was no difference betwixt Breeches, and Ierkin. I thrust my Legges into the Sleeves, and wore the Breeches for a Doublet; not forgetting the Stockings, which seemed to bee some Chandlers drawing Sleeves: the Shooes were like Shackles about my Legges, because they wanted Soles. I blockt on the Hat, the Crowne downeward, because it was lesse greasie. And as for the troopes that travelied over mee on foot and horseback, I let them passe. In this Habit went I to my Master, who had sent to call mee; who wondering to see such a skare Crow, fell into such a laughter, that

that his back-strings slackening, hee could hold no longer, but made flush; the which (for his credite) it is fitting ones tongue should passe over with silence. After a thousand stoppes, he asked me the reason of this Disguise; I told it him: and thereupon, instead of taking pittie of mee, hee chid me, and turned me out of doores, saying, That as then I had brought that man into my Bed; so another time, I would doe the like with some other, that would rob him.

CHAP. II.

*How Lazaro tooke shipping at
Cartagena.*

I Alwayes have had a gift, not to stay long with one Master; no more did I with this, though not by my fault. I saw my selfe forsaken, alone, and distressed; in such plight, as every one would thrust mee from him, gybing and laughing at mee. One would tell mee, That Hat with a Back-doore, is not much amisse; it looks like a Dutch-womans Cappe: Another would say, That Doublet is of the Fashion, it is like an Hogstye; and the rather, seeing your Worship is in it: they runne so thick, that hee might kill them, and send them salted to the good Lady his Wife. A Snap-sack-bearer said to me: Fore God, Sir

Lazaro,

Lazaro, those Stockings make you a very good Calfe. Every one did so scoffe and flout mee, that I was in minde to returne home againe, but that I thought, that there would bee but poore Warres, if I should not get more than I had lost. That, that grieved mee most, was, that they fled from me as from one that were infected. Wee tooke shipping at *Cartagena*: the ship was great, and well provided. They hoisted up the Sailes, and committed them to the Wind, which carried it, and drove it with great swiftnesse. The shore vanished from our sight, and the Sea begun to swell with a contrary Wind, which raised the Billowes, unto the Clouds. The tempest increased, and our hope diminished. The mariners and pilots gave us over: The wayling and weeping was so great, that mee thought we were at a *good friday* correction.

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The noyse was so great, that nothing of what was commanded, could bee understood : The one runned to one place, the other to another : wee all seemed Braziers, Every one confessed himselfe to whom hee could : such there were as confessed themselves to a Punk; who gave them the absolution after as good a manner, as if hee had exercised the Office many yeeres. It is good angling in a muddie Water : When I saw that they were all busie, I said to my selfe, Die then, and die full. And thereupon I went downe to the bottom of the Ship, where there was great store of Bread, Wine, Pasties, and Preserves, for no body said so much as what make you here ? I began to eat of all, and to fill my belly, that I might have provision enough till Doomes-day. In the meane time there came a Souldier

to

to mee, desiring me to shrieve him : Who, amazed to see mee with so good Cheere, and Appetite, asked me, How I could eat, seeing death before mine eyes ? I answered him, That I did it for feare lest the Sea-water, which I was to drinke in my drowning, should doe mee any harme. This my simplicitie, made him fetch a laugh from his heeles. Many confessed themselves to mee, not able to utter one true word for grieve and feare ; nor I to hearken unto them, for haste that I had to fill my selfe. The Captaines, and men of note, with two Priests that were there, saved themselves in the Cook-boat. I being ill appured, could not bee received into it. When I had eaten my fill, I went mee to a Hogs-head of good Wine, and there powring downe my Throat as much as ever I could, I forgot both my selfe and the Tempest. The

Ship

Ship overturned, and the Water came in, as in her home. A Corporall taking hold of both my hands amidst the pangs of death, desired mee to heare a sinne whereof hee would confesse himselfe unto mee, which was, That he had not fulfilled a Pennance which had been enjoined him, to goe on Pilgrimage to our Lady of *Loretta*, having had many opportunities to effect it; and that then, when hee would, hee could not. I told him, that by the authority which I had received, I did change it him, and that in stead of going to our Lady of *Loretta* hee should goe to *S. James*. Alas Sir (said hee) how willingly would I accomplish this Pennance; but already the water begins to get into my mouth so that I cannot. If it be so, said I againe, I enjoyne you for your Pennance to drinke all the water of the Sea: but hee did not execute

execute it, by reason that there were others that drunke as much as hee. The water comming to my mouth, I cryed out, To another doore, for this cannot open; and although it had beene open, yet could it not have entred, because my body was so full of Wine, that it lookt like a puffed Bladder. At the noyse of the cracking of the Ship, came a great quantity of Fish, eating the flesh of the Wretches that were drowned (and not in a little Water) as if they fed in a Common. In the little time that I was a going to the bottome, and comming up againe, I saw incredible things; An infinite number of Bones, and Bodies of Men; great store of Coffers, full of Money and Jewels, great quantitie of Armes, Silkes, Linnen, and Spices. I had a great mind to all, and it grieved mee much, that I had it not all late at home, with which (as a *Bijcay* said)

I would eat my Bread printed with *sardines*. If I could but get out these Riches now, (said I to my selfe) no Inne-keeper in the world should fare more delicatly than I. I would build Houses, establish Revenewes, and purchase a Garden in the *Zigarrales*. My Wife should stile her selfe Lady, and I Lordship: I would marry my daughter to the richest Cooke in my Countrey. Every one would come and congratulate mee, and I would tell them, that I had wrought fairely, drawing my Wealth, not out of the entrailles of the Earth, but from the very heart of the Sea: not wet with sweat, but through wet with water, as any dryed *Poore-John*. In all my life, I was never so content as then; not considering, that if I opened my mouth, I should remaine there buried with the Treasure, for ever and a day.

CHAP. III.

How Lazaro came out of the Sea.

Seeing my selfe so neere unto my end, I feared; and so nigh the Treasure, I rejoiced: Death affrighted me, the Treasure delighted mee. To shun that, since I could not enjoy this, I rent off from my back the ragges that the Squire my Master had left mee, for the good services which I had done him, and began to swimme (though I had but very little skill therein) Necessity giving Wings to my feet, and Oares to my hands. I know not how; a Cord fastened about my foot, which (as farre as I could perceive) was tyed to a great Chest (without doubt, full of Jewels) which though I could, I would not unloosen; imagining, whether my

Zigarrales
is a place
in Toledo,
where
there are
very plea-
sant Gar-
dens.

my former thoughts might not have beene some prophecie. But such was my bad luck, that if all the prophecies in the World had promised mee some happy and constant fortune, yet none of them had come to passe. As the Cord lengthened, my hopes and ambition increased, beleieving, that if I could but come a shore with it, I would draw and pull out of the Sea that great Chest, wherewith *Lazaro* should be more wealthy, and more respected, than *Prestor John* of the *Indies*. The Fishes which were about mee, came to bite mee, thrusting mee forward with their bobs, which were to mee as a Stirrop: And so they jogging, and I kicking, wee came almost to the top of the Water, where there befell mee a chance, which was cause of all my misfortune. The Fishes and I ranne into a Net, which

cer-

certaine Fishermen had cast forth: who feeling a Draught, drew it up with such violence (and the Water with no lesse, beginning to enter into mee) that unable to resist, I began to drowne, and could not have escaped, if the Saylers (according to their accustomed haste) had not drawne up the prey into their Boat. The Devill take that filthy savour: in all my life time I never drunke worse stuffe; it tasted somewhat like the Worshipfull Arch-Priest his Pisse, which once my Wife made mee drinke, telling mee it was Wine of *Oca-Ocana*, a

va. Having put into the Boat the Fishes, and I among them, they began to draw the Cord, by the which (as it is said) they pulled up the Bottome: they found mee tyed at it; whereat much amazed, they said, What Fish is this, that hath the face of a man?

Is

Citie in
Spain
where
very good
Wine is
made.

Is it not some Devill, or some Spirit? But let us draw this Rope, and see what Clogge hangs at the heeles. Then fell they a haling and rugging, with such might and maine, that they had like to have sunke the Boat: Perceiving the danger, they presently cut the Rope, and with it, the hopes of *Lazaro*, of ever attaining to the greatnesse of the *Goths*. They held my head downe-ward, that I might the better cast out the water, as also the Wine, which I had dranke. They perceived, that I was not dead, (which had not beene the worst for mee) and gave me a little Wine, with the which (is a Lampe with Oyle) I came againe to my selfe. They asked mee a hundred Questions, but I answered to none of them, untill such a time as they gave mee some Meate. Then recovering breath, the first thing that I asked them,

The *Goths* were the first Kings of *Spain*, from whence, when a man is termed rich and great, he is said to be of the *Goths*.

them, was for the Clogge which I dragged at my foot: They answered mee, that they had cut it, to save themselves from the danger wherein they were. There did *Treylose* her selfe, and *Lazaro* his well-placed desires: there began his paines, griefes, and torments. There is no greater vexation in the World, than to have beene rich, and eleuated to the Hornes of the Moone; and afterward, to become poore, and subiect to fooles. All my *Chimeraes* were built upon the Water; and in an instant, it drowned them all. then did I relate unto the Fisherman, what both they and I had lost, by cutting off my Iesses: which, when they understood, they were so griued, that one of them had like to runne madde. But one of the grauest among them sayd, That it would bee good to turne mee

mee againe into the Sea, and to stay there for mee, untill I came forth againe. They were all of his opinion; and, notwithstanding all the inconueniencies which I represented unto them, they persisted in their deliberation, saying, That since I knew the way, it would bee an easie thing for mee (as if it had beene no more, than to goe to a Cookes Shop, or to a Tauerne.) They were so blinded with couerousnesse, that alreadie they would have throwne mee o. ver boord; if my good, or rather bad fortune, had not brought to the place where wee were, another Boat, which came to carry away their Draught. Wherefore they held their peace, lest the others should know of the Treasure which they had discovered, and were constrained for that time, to desist from their
cruell

cruell intention. They brought their Boates to the shore, and craftily threw mee among the Fishes, with intent to returne to seeke mee againe, when conveniently they might. Then two of them tooke mee, and secretly carried mee to a little Cottage, not farre from thence. One that knew not the mystery, asked them what was that; They answered, That it was a Monster which they had taken with the Tunnies. When I saw my selfe in the lodge, I desired them to give mee some ragges, or other, to cover my nakednesse, that I might shew my selfe before men. That shall be (answered they) when the Reckoning is made with the Hostesse; but I understood not (at that present) that kinde of language. The fame of the Monster did

Spread it selie throughout all the Countrey, so that much people came to the Cottage, for to see mee: But the Fishermen would not shew mee, saying, That they expected a Licence from the Bishop and Inquisitors to that end; vntill when, they desired to be excused. I was amazed, not knowing what to say, or doe, little imagining what their intention was. It was with mee as with Cuckolds, who are the last that know, that they are such: these Diuels found out an Invention, the Diuell himselfe could not have invented the like; which requireth a new Chapter, and new attention.

Chap.

CHAP. III.

*How Lazaro was carried through
all Spaine.*

O Ccasion makes the theefe. Which the Fisherman seeing to offer selie so faire unto them, tooke hold of, not onely by the fore-top, but by the whole body. For perceiuing that so great number of the people came to see the new Fish, they determined to recompence themselves of the losse that they had made, in cutting the Rope from my foot: and therefore they sent to demand a Licence of the Inquisitors, to shew over all Spaine a Fish, that had a mans face. They obtained it very easily, by meanes of a Present which they made to their Lordships, of the best Fish they had taken. When then the good *Lazaro* was giuing thanks

The pursuit of the History

to God, that hee had drawne him out of a Filthes belly (which was a miracle, by so much the greater, by how much my skill and cunning was the lesse, swimming like a Barre of Iron) foure of them (who seemed rather Execucioners, such as crucified Christ, than men) came and tooke me up, and binding my hands behinde my backe, put me on a Beare, not forgetting the great Mustachios, and a Periwig made of Mosse, that made mee shew like a wilde man in a garden. They wrapped up my feet in Flagges, as a Trowt of the Mountaines. I bewayled my mishap, I sighed, complaining of my Destinie. O Fortune (said I) why doest thou persecute me thus? In all my life I never saw nor knew thee: but if by the effects, one may judge of the cause, by the tryall which already I have had of thee, I

am

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

am verily perswaded, that no Syren, Baziliske, Viper, or Lionesse with Whelpes, is more cruell than thou art. Thou rayfest men by thy flatteries and cherishings, to the highest of thy delights and riches, and from thence doest hurle them headlong into the depth of all miseries and calamities, by so much the greater, by how much thy favours have beene great. One of these my Tormentors hearing my complaint, with a Carter-like voice said to mee, If Master Tunnie speake but a word more, hee shall presently bee salted with his companions, or bee burned for a Monster: The Lords of the Inquisition (continued hee) have ordayned, that wee carrie him thorow all the Cities and Places of *Spaine*, to make him bee seene of all men, as a Prodigie, and Monster of Nature.

I

The best
Trouts in
Spaine are
taken in
the springs
of rivers in
the Mount-
taines,
from
whence
they are
brought
wrapped
up in flags
for feare
of spoy-
ling.

The pursuit of the History

I swore and vowed unto them, that I was neither Tunnie, Monster, nor any such thing, but as good a man as any neighbours Childe whatsoever: and that if I was come out of the Sea, it was by reason I had fallen into it, among those that were drowned, going to the Warres of *Argiers*. But they were deafe and so much the more, that they were not minded to understand mee. Seeing that my prayers were as vainely spent, as Sudds about an Asses face; I put on patience, expecting till Time, that procureth all, should cure my anguish, proceeding from those cursed Metamorphosis. They put me in a halfe Tubbe, made after the fashion of a Brigantine, full of Water; so that sitting in it, it came up to my Lippes. I could not stand upon my feet, for they were tyed with a Rope, whereof one end came out

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

out through a Leaden pipe, put betweene the hoopes and boords of the said Tub, in such sort, that it by mischance I grunted never so little, in pulling onely the Rope, they made me plunge (like a duck) and drinke more Water than one that hath the Dropsie. I shut my mouth close, till such time as hee that pulled the Rope, had slackened it; and then I peeped out with my head like a Tortoyse, learning from thenceforth by my owne harme to beware. Being laid in this maner, they shewed me to every one; and the number of those that came to see me, was so great, that in one day (euery one paying three halfe pence) they got two hundred Ryals. The more they gained, the more they couered; which made them have a great care of my welfare. They entred in consultation, whether it were best every night to take me out of the water, lest the
over

over-much moistnesse and cold might shorten my life, which was dearer unto them than their owne, for the profit which they received by it. At length they concluded, that I should still remaine therein; perswading themselves, that custome would turne into nature: so that by that meanes poore *Lazaro* was as green Rice, or Hempe in a standing Poole. I leaue to the charitable consideration of the Gentle Reader, what in such a case I might endure, seeing my selfe detained in so strange a kinde of Prison, a Captive in a Land of freedome, and fettered by the malice of those covetous Puppet-players; and (which was worst, and plagued me most) was to be forced to counterfeite the dumbe man, without being so; nor to have power so much as to open my mouth, because that at the instant that I did open it, my Centinell was so watchfull, that (without being discovered by

any

any one) he would stop it with water, for feare lest I should speake. My meat was soaked Bread, which those that came there, threw mee, to see me eate: so that in the space of sixe moneths that I remained in that Bath, the Dquill a bit of any thing else that I did eate, being ready to die for hunger. My drinke was the Water of the Tubbe; which not being very cleane, was the more substantial, for the coldnesse thereof gave me a Laskewhich lasted as long as I continued in that watry Purgatory.

CHAP V.

How Lazaro was carried to
the Court.

THese Extortioners carried mee from Citie to Citie, from Towne to Towne, and from Farme to Farme, more iocund with their gaine, than the Earth with May flowres; and flowing poore Lazaro, thus did sing:

*Long life and health God grant
unto the Fish,*

*Who (without working) doth
maintaine our dish.*

The Hearle wherin I was, was carryed upon a Carr, and attended by three; the Car-man; hee that drew the Cord when I did offer to speake; and he that related my life: who likewise made the speeches, telling the strange meanes they had used

used to catch mee, and lying more confidently then any Taylor upon an Easter Eue. When we travelled through uninhabited places, they suffered me to speake; which was the greatest courtesie I received of them. I asked them, what Deuill had put it into their heads? to carry me up and downe after such a manner in a Tubbe. They answered me, That if they had not done so, I would have dyed presently; for being (as I was) a Fish, they knew I could not live out of the Water. Seeing them so confident, I determined to be one; and so I perswaded my selfe, since that euery one esteemed me so; beleeuing, that the Sea-Water might have transformed mee (the voice of the people being, according to the Prouerbe, the voice of God) so that from thence forward I was as silent as if I had been at Masse. They brought mee

me to the Court, where their gaine was great, the followers thereof being very desirous of nouelties, as men that live in perpetuall idlenesse. Among many that came to see mee, there were two Schollers, who considering more exactly my Physiognomie, said in a low voice, That they durst sweare upon a Booke, that I was no Fish, but a Man; and that if they had beene in any charge of Iustice, they would have sifted out the naked truth, with a Whip on their naked shoulders. I prayed to God in my mind that they would doe it, so that I might have beene freed from thence: and thereupon I thought to helpe them forwards, saying, the Gentlemen Schollers are in the right, But scarce had I open'd my mouth, when my Centinell had popped it under Water. The shouting that all the people kept when I ducked my selfe

(or

(or rather they ducked me) hindred the good Licentiates to proceed any further in their discourse. They threw me bread, and I gobbled it up before it could be through wet, but they gave me not half so much as I could have eaten. Then I remembered the plenty that I had in *Toledo*, & my good friends the *Germans*, & what good wine I was wont to cty; beseeching God not to suffer me to die by water, my greatest enemy: after that I entred into consideration of what the students had said, which by reason of the noise, no body had understood, and confirmed my selfe in the opinion that I was a man, and from thence forward I held my selfe to be one, although my Wife had oftentimes told me that I was a beast, & the boies of *Toledo* were wont to say unto me, Good M. *Lazaro*, pull your Hat downe lower upon your forehead, for one may see your horns and

and their carrying of mee thus in pickle, had made me doubt whether I were a perfect man, or no. But as soone as I heard these blessed and quick-sighted Overseers speake, I made no more doubt of it, but sought meanes to free my selfe from the hands of those *Chaldeans*. One night, in the deadeest time, seeing my Guards fast a sleepe, I tried to unbinde my selfe: but by reason that the Cords were wet, it was impossible for me, I thought, to cry out, but I considered, that it would auaille mee nothing, for the first of them that should heare me, would have stopped my mouth with a pottle of Water. Seeing this gate shut to my remedy, with great impatience I began to tumble and wallow in my mire, and at length, with my tossing and struggling, I overthrew the Tub and my selfe withall, spilling all the water.

When

When I saw my selfe free, I began to call out for helpe. The Fishermen awaking, all amazed to see what I had done, came in haste to releeeve me, by stopping my mouth and cramming it with Grassie : and the better to confound my exclamations, they likewise with a lowder straine fell a crying, help, help; and amidst this hurly-burly, they ran to a Well hard by, and with an incredible diligence filled up the Tub againe. The Host came forth with a Halbert, and all those of the house, some with Spits, and some with Poles. The neighbours came running in, and a Bailiffe with his associates, that were passing that way. The Inne-keeper asked the Saylers what the matter was, who answered, that theeves would have stolne away their Fish; which he hearing, (as if he had beene mad) fell a crying out, Theeves, Theeves. Some watched if they would steale out at

P

the

the doore; others looked, if they did not climb from one house to another: but already my keeper had returned me into my Bath. It happened, that the Water which had been spilled, ranne all thorow a hole into a lower chamber, upon the bed where the Daughter of the house did lye, who moved with charity, had afforded part of it to a Priest, who for her sake was come to lodge there that night. They were so skared with the deluge of Water that fell upon their bed, & with the outcries & noise that every one did make, that, not knowing what shift to make, they threw themselves out at a window as naked as *Adam* and *Eve*. Now did the Moon shine so bright, that she might have entred in comparison with him from whom she doth receive her brightness. As soone as they saw them, they cryed out, there be the Theeves. stop the Theeves. The Bailiffe and his assistants ran after them, and overtook them

them not far from thence, (by reason that being bare footed, the stones did hinder their speed) and without any delay carried them to Prison. The Fishermen the next morning very early tooke leave of *Madrid* to goe to *Toledo* not knowing what was become of the kind hearted Wench, and the devout Priest.

CHAP. VI.

How Lazaro was carried to Toledo.

The Industry of Men is vaine; their Knowledge, Ignorance; & their might, Impotency; where God doth not strengthen, direct, and guide them. My labour served only to increase the care and sollicitude of my laylors; who agry for their last nights Alarū, gave mee so many Bastinadoes by the way, that they left me almost for dead, saying, Accursed Fish, would you have beene gone? Do you not acknowledge

knowledge the great good one doth you, in not killing you ? you are as the Oake, that yeeldeth not his fruit without cudgelling. After this manner, bruised, upbraided, and almost dead for hunger, they entred me into *Toledo*, and lodged themselves hard by a place called the *Zocodober*, at a Widdowes House, Whose Wine I was wont to crie. They put mee in a lower Roome, where a multitude of people came to see mee, and among others, my *Elmira*, holding my daughter by the hand. When I saw them, I could not but give way to two Niles of teares, that gushed out of mine eyes. I wept, and sighed, but within my selfe, for feare they should deprive me of what I so much loved, and of the sight of that, which I desired to have a thousand eyes to see, though it had beene better, that those who hindred my speech had also taken from mee my visible faculty. For
looking

looking earnestly upon my Wife, I saw her (I know not if I may speak it) I saw her with a belly mounted to her mouth. I was amazed and astonished, although (had I beene in my right wits) I had had no great cause : for the Arch-Priest, my Master, had told me, when I went to the Warres, that hee would deale with her as if shee had beene his owne. But what most vexed mee was, that I could not perswade my selfe that shee was with childe by me, having beene absent above a yeere. Indeed when I dwelt with her, and that wee were at Bed and Boord together, and that shee would say to mee, *Lazaro*, doe not beleeeve that I am false to thee ; for so doing, thou doest wondrous ill : I was so well satisfied, that I abhorred to conceive an evill thought of her, even as the Devill doth holy-water ; I lived joviall, content, and without Jealousie, the disease of Fooles. I have of-

rentimes considered with my selfe, that this matter of childrē doth chiefly consist in imagination: for how many are there, that love such as they think to be theirs, who indeed belong to them no otherwise, than by name & number: and others, who (for certaine *Chymeræes* forged in their braines, that their Wives have grafted upon their heads the punishment of *Attonstement*) doe hate and abhorre those that be their owne? I began to reckon the moneths, and dayes, but I found the way stopt to my comfort. I thought, whether my deare bed fellow were not sick of the Dropsie, but that pious imagination lasted me but very little: for, as soon as she was gon forth, two old gossips begā to say one to another, What think you of the Arch-Priestres? she hath no want of her Husband. Who hath got her with:childe, asked the other? Who? replied the first, Marry, the reverēd Arch-Priest who

is so good, that (for to give no scandall, if she should be delivered in his house, without having a Husband) he doth marry her the next Sunday to *Peter Gabacho*. who wil be as patiē as my Gossip *Lazaro*. That was the Touchstone, & *Non plus ultra* of my patience; it began to overcome my Heart: So that, sweating within the Water, & unable to helpe my selfe, I fell downe in a swoone within the Hog-stie. The water then entring again through all the passages, without any resistance, I appeared to be dead (much against my will, which was, to live as long as it would please God, and I should be able, in spite of *Galicians*, & all crosse Fortune.) The Fishermen very heavy, caused all that were there, to goe out, and in all haste lifted my head out of the water; but they found that I was without pulse, or breath, as they themselves were for very grief, bewailing their losse, w^{ch} to them was none

of the least. They took me out of the Tubbe, and did what they could to make mee vomit that which I had swallowed; but all in vaine, for death (as they thought) had already shut the doore after her. They remained blank (as at a running Lottery) not knowing any remedie, nor how to ease their griefe. It was at last decreed by the Councell of three, that the Night following they should carry mee to the River, and should there throw me in, with a stone about my neck; to make that my Grave, which had beene the instrument of my death,

CHAP. VII.

what happened to Lazaro upon the way to the River Tagus.

LEt no man despaire, how afflicted soever hee seeth himselfe; for when hee shall least expect it,

it, God will open the gates & windows of his Mercy, & shew, that nothing is impossible unto him; and that he can and will change the designes of the wicked into wholesome and comfortable remedies, for such as put their trust in him. These Knaves in graine thinking that Death did not jest (whose custome is little so to doe) put me into a Sack, and (laying me overthwart a Mule, as a Goats skin of Wine, or rather of Water, being full thereof to the very mouth) tooke their way downe the Hill of the *Car-melites*, more sorrowfull than if they had beene going to bury the Father that begot them, or the Mother that bare them. It was my good fortune, when they put me upon the Mule, to be laid upon my stomack and belly; so that going with my mouth downward, I began to cast out Water, as if a Sluce-gate had beene opened, or as if I had been the fish **Frago*, by means wher of

In Spaine they use to carry Wine or Water upon Mules or Huses in Goats or Calves skins, fitted to that purpose, which they call Caques. * *Frago* with the Spaniards is a Fish that out of his mouth doth for e times cast so much water, that it is able to drowne a boat.

whereof I came againe to my selfe; & gathering breath, I perceived I was out of that accursed water Tub: but I neither knew where I was, nor whether they carried me. Only I heard them say, It is best for our safety to seek out some Pit very deep, that hee may not bee found so soone. By the thred I recovered the needle, & imagining presently what the matter was, & seeing the Crow could be no blacker than his wings, hearing a noise of people thereabouts I began to cry out, Help, for the Lords sake. The stir I heard was the Watch, who came instantly to my out-cry with their naked swords, & ransacking the Sack, found poore *Lazaro* through soaked, as a Green-fish. They caried us all, as they found us to the gaole; the fishermen weeping to see themselves prisoners, & I laughing being at liberty. They put them in a dungeon, & me in a good bed. The next day being examined,

They

They confessed, indeed they had carried me up and down through *Spaine*: but that they had done it, beleaving I was a Fish; & to that effect they had obtained a Licence of the Lords of the Inquisition. For my part, I told the truth, and how those Rascals held me bound, & put me into such a posture, as I was not able so much as to grunt. They brought in the Arch-Priest, and my good *Eluisa*, to prove if it were true that I were that *Lazaro de Tormes*, whom I said I was. My wife & tred the first, & earnestly beholding me, said, That the truth was, I somewhat resembled her good husband; but shee beleaved I was not hee: for though I had alwayes been a great Beast, I was more likely to becom a Gnat or an ox than a fish. Having thus said, making a low currie, she wēt forth. My hangmans attorny required, that I might be burn'd, because without doubt I was a Monster, which he did binde himselfe to prove. (The Devill I am as

soone, (said I to my selfe) unlesse some Conjuror now should persecute me, transforming me into what hee listeth.) The Iudges commanded him to be silent. Then came in the reverend Arch-Priest, who seeing mee so bleake, and wrimples, like an old Wives belly, said, That he neither knew me by my face nor shape. I then remembred him of some old passages, and many secrets that had passed betweene us ; particularly I bad him remember the Night that he came naked unto my bed, saying, that he was afraid of a Hob-goblin that haunted his chamber, and laid himselfe betweene my Wife and me. He, for feare I should have proceeded any farther in tokens, confessed it to be true, that I was *Lazaro*, his good friend and servant. The Suit ended with the testimonie of the Captaine that had carried me from *Toledo* (and was one of those that escaped the

Tempest

Tempest in the Cockboat) who acknowledged, that I was in person *Lazaro* his servant ; and all this did agree with the relation of the time and place where the fishermen said they had caught me. They condemned every one of them to two hundred stripes, and their goods confiscated, the one part to the King, the other to the Prisoners, and the third to *Lazaro*.

They were found to have two thousand Ryals, two Mules, and a Cart ; of the which (all duties and charges paid) there fell to my share twenty duckats. The Sailers remained bare and comfortlesse, and I rich and content; for in all my life before I had not seen my selfe Master of so much money at once. I went to the house of one of my Friends: where, after I had powred down my Throat some Gallons of Wine, to wash away the evill favour of the Water, and put my selfe into good Clothes, I began to walke like

Fiftie
pounds.

A Duckat
is five shil-
lings six
pence of
our money.

like an earle, faring like a King, honored of my Friends, feared of mine Enemies, & welcome to all. The miseries I passed, seemed to me a Dreame; the present happines, a haven of rest; the futur hopes, a Paradise of pleasure. Adversitie doth humble, prosperity puffe up the minde. All the time the twenty duckats lasted, if the King had called me Cousin, I had taken it for an affront. When wee *Spaniards* can get a Ryall, we are Princes; and though we want it, we do not want presumption. If you aske a shake-rag who he is, hee will answer, that (at the least) he is descended from the *Goths*, & his bad fortune hath thus dejected him; being the property of the foolish World, to elevate the base, and debase the worthy: and yet such as he is, he would not yeeld to any, nor esteeme himselfe lesse than the greatest; and would rather sterve, than put himselfe to any Trade; or if hee doth, it is with such

contempt

contempt and distaste, that either hee will not worke at all; or if he doth, it is so ill, that hardly in all *Spain* shall one finde a good workman of a *Spaniard*. I remember there was a Cobler in *Salamanca*; who, when one did bring him any thing to mend, would make a long discourse to himselfe, complaining of his evill fortune, that had reduced him to the necessity of working in so base a Trade, being descended from such a house and from such parents, who for their worth were known over all *Spain*. I asked one day a neighbor of his, of what kindred that Bragadocio was. Hee told mee, his father was a treader of Grapes in Vintage time, a Hog-killer in Winter; his mother a tripe-washer, I mean a tripe-wifes maid. I had bought a Sute of old peeld Velvet, a long thred bare Cloak of *Segovia* Serge; I wore my Sword so long, that the Chape unpaved the Stones of the streets as I walked,

In *Spain*, and other Countries to make their Wines, they put their grapes into great Tubs, into the which men goe bare legd and sometimes naked to tread the Grapes for to expresse the juice.

ked. When I came out of Prison, I would not goe see my Wife ; to give her a greater desire to see mee, and to bee revenged of the scorne that she had made of me. I beleevved undoubtedly, that seeing mee so well appalled, shee would repent her selfe, and receive me with open armes ; but obstinate shee was, and obstinate shee remained. I found her in Child-bed, and newly married. When shee saw me, shee cryed out as if shee had been mad, Take from before me that ill watered Fish, that face of a new-pluckt Goose, or by the blessednesse of my dead Fathers Soule, if I rise, I will scratch out his eyes. I, with a great deale of flegme, answered her, Faire and softly (good Mistris Wag-taile) if you know me not for your Husband, nor I you for my Wife, let mee have my daughter, and as good friends as ever before, for I have got wherewith to marry her very honourably

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

rably. Me thought those twenty ducats should have beene like little *Lohn* of Gods five Blankes ; who, as soone as hee had spent them, found five other still in his Purse : but with mee, as I was *Lazarillo* of the Devill, it fell out otherwise, as shall appeare in the next Chapter. The Arch-Priest opposed himselfe against my demand, saying, That she was not mine ; and for prooffe thereof, hee shewed mee the Church Booke for Christnings, which compared with the Register of Marriages, it appeared, that the Girle was borne foure moneths after that I first carnally knew my Wife. My man *Thomas* fell downe, who till then had beene on horse-back, and I perceived the error in the which I had lived untill that time, beleevving her to be my daughter, that was not so. I shook upon them the dust of my shoes, and washed my hands in token of innocencie, and of

Twelve
Blankes
make an
English
penny.

Q

parting

parting for ever; and so I turned my back unto them, with as much comfort as if I had never knowne them. I went to seeke some of my friends, to whom I related the whole matter: they comforted me; which was a thing very easie for them to do. I would not return to the Office of common Cryer, for my Velvet had rooted out such petty thoughts. Going toward the gate cald *de V. lagra* as I passed through that of *S. Iohn* of the Kings, I met with an old acquaintance of mine; who, after shee had saluted mee, told mee how that my Wife was growne more gentle, since shee had understood that I had money; particularly that, that *Gabacho* had as good as new dressed her from top to toe. I desired her to let mee understand the businesse: she did it, saying, that Master Arch-Priest and my Wife had entered one day into consultation, whether it were best to take me home

againe

againe to them, & turne out that *Gabacho*, bringing reasons of the one side and of the other. This their consulting was not so secrets, but that the new Husband heard of it: who dissembling, the next morning went out to work at the Olive trees, whither his Wife and mine at noone did goe to carry him his dinner. He then bound her fast to a Tree, and having stripped her stark naked, gave her there above a hundred stripes; and not content with that, made a bundle of all her Cloathes, and pulling her Rings off her fingers, ranne away with all, leaving her bound, naked, and in a pittifull case: where (without doubt) she had died if the Arch-Priest had not sent to seeke her. She went on, saying, that shee beleevved without all peradventure, that if I sent but any one to entreat them, they would receive mee to them as before: for she had

The pursuit of the History

heard my *Elvira* say, Wretched that I am, why did I not admit my good *Lazaro*, who was even as good as the good Bread ; not hard to please, not scrupulous, who suffered mee to doe whatsoever I would ? That was a touch, which turned me topsie-turvy, and made me resolve to follow the counsell of the good old Woman: Neverthelesse, I thought good first to conferre of it with my friends.

C H A P. VIII.

How Lazaro pleaded against his Wife.

WE men are somewhat a kin to laying Hens : for if wee minde to doe any good, we presently proclaime and kackle it abroad : but if evill, wee will not that any one know it, lest they should dissuade us from that, from the which it were good wee should be diverted.

I

of Lazariillo de Tormes.

I went to see one of my friends, and I found three together, for since I had money, they were multiplied as flies in the Fruit season. I told them my intention and desire, which was to go and live againe with my wife, and shun the slanderings speeches of malevolent tongues; a knowne evill being better than an unknowne good. But they made the deed so hainous and odious unto me, telling me, that I was a man without either black in my eyes, or braines in my head, that I would goe to dwell with a Purke, a Cockatrice, a Cat amountaine, and lastly, the Devills Hackney (for so in *Tolledo* do they call Priests Wenches.) They said such and so many things to mee, and so perswaded mee, that I determined neither to intreat her, nor to seeke to her. These my good friends (I would the Devill had had them) seeing that their counsell and perswasions had wrought with mee,

Q 3

proceeded

proceeded farther, saying, That they counsell'd me (because I was so deare unto them) to take away the spots, and cleane the stains of my reputation ; to stick close to it, and not let it fall to the ground : And therefore that I should exhibit a Complaint in Law against the Arch-Priest and my Wife ; for all should cost mee neither penny, nor farthing, they being (as they were) Officers of Justice. The one (who was an Attorney for lost Suites) offered mee a hundred ducckers for my gettings. The other, as better experimented (being a Solliciter for Traders) told mee, That if hee were in my Coat, he would not give my gaines for two hundred. The third assured mee, That (as hee did well know, being, as hee was, a Sergeant) hee had seene other Cases, not so plaine, and a great deale doubtfuller than this, that had bene worth to the undertakers

an

an innumerable summe ; although he beleev'd, that upon the first Writ the good *Domine Bacchalaure* would fill my hands, and grease theirs, that wee might give over the Suit, desiring that I would retorne againe to my Wife : which would be much more honourable and profitable for mee, than if I had made meanes unto her. They so highly commended this businesse unto mee, alluring mee with faire and great hopes, that they brought mee to what they would, not knowing how to answer their sophistick arguments : howbeit, I know, that it was better to forgive and humble my selfe, than to prosecute things to the extremities, fulfilling the most difficult commandement of God, To love our enemies. And then, my Wife did never behave her selfe like an enemy towards mee : contrariwise, by her I began to grow into credit,

The pursuit of the History

and to bee knowne of many, who would point at me with their finger, saying, There goes patient *Lazaro*: by her I began to have an Office, and Benefice. If the Daughter, which the Arch-Priest said was none of mine, were so or no; God, who searcheth the reines, best knowes; and it may bee, that as I may have beene mistaken, hee likewise might have beene deceived. As it may happen, that some one, who reading this simplicity of mine, will burst out into such laughter, as hee may chance to moysten the Linings of his Breeches; doth maintaine the children of some reverend Frier; and doth labour, sweat, and moyle, to leave them rich that begger him of his reputation; beleev- ing for certaine, that if there be one honest Woman in the World, it is his. And moreover, it may bee, that the Pedigree whereof thou doest boast (gentle Reader) as derived from

Mars,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

Mars, is deducted from *Vulcan*. But leaving every one in his good opinion, all these good considerations did not withstand, but that I formed a complaint against the Arch-Priest, and against my Wife: and (having ready mony) within foure and twenty houres they put them into prison; him, into the Arch-Bishops, and her into the common Jayle. The Lawyers did bid mee, not to regard the money that I did lay out for that businesse, by reason that I should recover it all againe of the *Domine*. So that, for to doe him more harme, and that the charges might be so much the greater, I gave them whatsoever they did aske mee. And because they smelt my Cash, as Bees doe honey, they were so carefull and diligent to runne to and fro, not making one idle step, that in lesse than eight dayes the Cause was very forward, and my Purse very backward. The Eviden-

ces

ces were produced with great facility, by reason that the Sergeants that had arrested them, had taken them napping; and even as they were in their shirts, had carried them to prison. The witnesses were many, and their depositions true. But my honest Attorney, Counsellor, and Register, perceiving my Purse to bee at an ebbe, beganne to grow so carelesse and lazie, that to have made them advance one step, they had needed more spurring than any Hackney Iade. When the Arch-Priest and his friends understood our great neglect, they beganne to crow up, and grow peart, greasing the hands and feet of their Agents; being like the weights of a Clock, which doe mount proportionally as the others goe downe. They tooke such a course, that within a fortnight after they came out of Prison upon Bayle; and within lesse than a week more,

by

by meanes of false witnesses, they made poore *Lazaro* bee condemned to aske pardon, pay all charges, and to be banisht for ever out of *Toledo*. I demanded pardon, as it was most just hee should, who with twenty crownes had undertaken to pleade against him that measured them by Peckes. I gave all to my very shirt to helpe to pay the charges, going out with my bare skinne to my banishment. I saw my selfe in one instant, rich, at Law with one of the Powers of the holy Church of *Toledo* (an enterprise only for a Prince) respected of my friends, feared of mine enemies, and in the predicament of a Gentleman, that would not suffer an affront; and in the same instant I found my selfe cast (not out of the Earthly Paradise, my private nakednesse obumbrated with Figge-leaves, but) out of the place which I most loved and esteemed;

med ; where I had received so much good entertainment, so many pleasures. My nuditie being covered with certaine Rags which I found upon a Dunghill, I betooke mee to the common comfort of the distressed ; believing, that since I was at the lowest of Fortunes Wheele, necessarily (at her turning) I was againe to rise. At that time I remembered what once I had heard my Master the blinde-man say, (who when he did set himselfe a preaching, would do wonders ;) That all the men in the world did ascend & descend by the wheele of Fortune ; some following her motion, others going against it: this onely difference being betweene them, that those that went with the streame, with the same swiftnesse that they did climbe up, with the same they do tumble down : and those that goe against it, if once they attained unto the top (though with great paines and labour) they maintained

maintained themselves there a long time. I, like the former, did run the smooth way of her wheele, but with such swiftnesse, that I scarce yet was come to the top, when she threw mee into the bottomlesse pit of all calamities. I saw my selfe a Begger, even of the most beggerly, having untill then beene one of a better stampe ; and might well have said, Naked did I come into the world, and naked doe I goe out, I neither winne nor lose. In this pickle I tooke my way towards *Madrid*. craving the charitable benevolence of well disposed persons, as one that best could do it ; for I was a Miller ; to which Trade, I to returne by need was made. I made my mone to every one : some did pittie mee, others did laugh at mee, and others did give me their almes ; so that having neither Wife nor daughter to maintaine, I had often meat and drink to spare : that yeare such store
of

of wine had beene gathered, that almost at every dore I came to they would take mee if I would drinke, because they had no Bread to give mee; I never refused it: so that sometimes it hath been my chance, before breakfast, to have gulped up foure portles of Wine, wherewith I was more jocund and merry than Schoole-boyes upon a holy-day Eve. If I may speak what I think, the Beggers life is the only life; all the others doe not deserve that name. If rich men had but tryed it, they would forsake their riches for it, as the ancient Philosophers did; who, for to enjoy it, left what they possessed; I say, for to enjoy it: for the Philosophers life and the Beggers is all one; onely they are distinguished, in that the Philosophers did forsake what they had for the love of it; and the Beggers without forsaking any thing, doe finde it. They did despise their wealth

wealth, that with lesse impediments they might contemplate both naturall and divine things, with the Celestiall motions: these, that they may (uncurbed) runne through the fields of their loose appetites. They did cast their goods into the Sea; these doe bury them in their stomackes. They did despise them as perishable and transitorie things; these doe not esteeme them, because they carry with them care and labour, things altogether out of their element. So that the Beggers life is quieter than either that of King, Emperour, or Pope. In it therefore did I meane to walke, as in a way most free, lesse dangerous, and very delightfull.

CHAP. IX.

*How Lazaro did make himselfe
a Porter.*

THere is no Trade, Science, nor Art, but, to attaine to the perfection thereof, it is needfull to imploy the capacitie, of the best understanding in the world. You shall have a Shoemaker, that hath beene thirty yeeres at his Trade, if you bid him make you a paire of shooes broad at the toes, high of instep, neat, and without puckering; doe you thinke he will doe it? before hee make you a paire such as you desire, hee will spoyle your foot. Aske a Philosopher, why Flies upon a white thing doe turne black, and contrariwise, upon a black, white; and you will make him blush, like a Maid upon her Marriage night, not knowing

ing how to answer; or if he doeto this, he will not to a thousand other fooleries. It was my chance to meete, neere to *Mescas*, an Arch-Rogue, Mescas, a
Cittie be-
twene
Madrid &
Toledo. and by his countenance perceiuing what he was, I paced towards him as to an Oracle, to enquire of him how I might governe my selfe in my new life, without bringing my selfe within the compasse of the Law. Hee answered me, That if I meant cleane to come off, and without danger, his counsell was, that I should ioyne to the life of an Hypocrite; that is to say, that though I were a Rogue in profession, yet (not to seeme so) I should giue my selfe to some imployment, as to skulke in a Kitchen; to cry Broomes, to sweepe Chimneyes to scrape Trenchers; or to carry Burthens from one place to another; which would serue as a Buckler to cover my Beggery.

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Hee

Hee told me moreover, that by reason that hee had not done so since these twenty yeeres that he followed that Occupation, he had the day before received two hundred stripes as a Rogue and vagabond. This aduise pleased me, and I followed his counsell. As soone as I came to *Madrid*, I got me a Porters Cord, with the which I quartered my selfe in the midst of the market place, with more content then a starued Cat with Gibblers. And in good time, and happy houre, the first that did set me to worke, was a Maid (God forgive me, for I lye) of some eightene yeeres of age, that simpered more then a new veyled Nun? shee bad me follow her, and led me through so many streetes, that I thought she had undertaken it as a taske, or that shee did it to abuse me: at length wee came to an house, which, by the Wicket therof, great Court,

Court, and the Wenches that danced there, I knew to be the publike Brothell. Then did she bring mee into her Cell; where she asked me, if I would be payed for my paines before wee went out: I answered her, that there was no haste, untill we came to the place where I was to carry my burthen, which I tooke vp, and set forward to the Gate of *Guadalachara*, where shee told me she was to take Waggon, to goe to the Faire of *Nagera*. The Fardle was light, most part thereof being nothing but little Sawcers, Bottles with Painting, and Waters. As we went, I understood how shee had beene eight yeeres of that Trade. The first that did set mee abroach (said she) was the Father Rector of the Iusuits of *Seuil*, where I was borne; who did it with so great deuotion, that from that day to this, I have beene very deuour.

Those wo.
men are
called Be-
are.

Hee recomended mee to one of the holy Women, deuoted to their Order, with whom I remained a-boue sixe monerhs, well provided of all things necessary. I was drawne thence by a Captaine, and so have roused up and dowue from one place to another, & am where thou seest. And would to God I had never departed out of the protection of that good father, who entertained me as his Daughter, and loved mee as his Sister. Finally, I haue beene constrained to follow an Occupation, to get my liuing. With this discourse we came to the waggon, which was ready to set forth. I discharged my burden into it, & praying her to pay me for my labor, the Rag-taile answered, That I will very willingly; and with that, lifting up her hand, she gave me such a Box on the eare, that she felled me to the ground, saying, art thou such

an

an Ass, as to aske money of one of my profession; Did I not bid thee, before thou camest out of the house of fellowship, to pay thy selfe, if thou wouldst, vpon me? With that (as nimbly as a Grassie-hopper) she leaped into the waggon, and away she went, and left me fretted at the heart, and as blanke as a Bell-founder, not knowing what ayled me. only I considered with my selfe, that if the progresse of my new Trade did follow the beginning, I should thrive fairly at the yeers end. Vpon my departure thence, there came another waggon from *Alcala de Henares*; out of the which, the passengers (who were all Whores, Scholars, and friers) being alighted, one of the order of S. *Francis*, asked me, if I would doe him that charity, as to carry his Truffe to his Couent. I answerd him with cheerfullnesse, that I would, for I perswaded my selfe,

A Citie in
Spaine

that hee would not coozen me, as that Drab had done, therefore I tooke it up, and it was so heany, that I could scarce carry it: yet for the hope of my good pay, I strayed my selfe. Being come to the Cloyster very weary, because it was farre, the Frier tooke his packe, and saying, For God sake be it done, went in, and shut the doore after him. I waited there untill he should come to pay me; but seeing that he did tarry long, I knocked at the Gate. The Porter came forth, and asked me what I would have; I told him, My payment for the burthen which I had brought. He answered me, that I should goe in Gods name, for they never payd any thing, and so locked the doore, charging me to knocke no more, by reason it was a time of silence; for if I did, he would give me an hundred lacings with his knotty girdle.

My

My courage was cooled, A poore man that stood at the Gate said to me; Brother, you may well goe your way, for these Fathers doe handle no money, for they live altogether upon other mens dishes. Let them live upon what they can (said I,) they shall pay me for my paines, or I will be no longer *Lazirillo*; and thereupon I fell a knocking with great anger. The Lay-Brother came forth with greater, and without any farther complement gave me such a push, that he threw me backward to the ground as if I had beene a mellow Peare; and kneeling upon me, he gave me halfe a dozen such punches with his knee, and as many flammes with his girdle, that he left mee all bruised, as if the Clock-Tower of *Sargosa* had fallen upon mee. I lay there stretched above halfe an houre, not being able to arise; I confide-

considered my evill fortune, and the strength of that irregular Frier so ill employed, which had been fitter to serve the King our Lord and Master, then to devour the almes ordained for the poore; though indeed they bee scarce good for any employment being idle and lazie-packs, as the Emperour *Charles* the first gave well to understand: for when the Generall of *S. Francis* his Order, offered two and twentie thousand Friers to assist him in his wars, none above forty, nor under two & twenty; the invincible Emperour answered, that hee would not have them, by reason that hee should have needed every day two and twenty thousand flesh-pots, intimating thereby, that they are fitter by faire for the Kitchen, than for any labour or service. God forgive me for since that day I have so abhorred those Lay-clergie-men, that me

me thought when I saw them, I did see Droanes of a Bee-hive, or sponges of the fat of the porridge-pot. I was minded to give over my office, but I expected the revolution of the 24. houres,* as the custome is for those that die of sudden death.

* Those that die in Spaine of sudd. an death are kept 24. houres before they be buried.

CHAP. X.

How Lazaro met with an old Band, and what happened unto him.

Wake & dead for hunger, I went little by little up the street, & passing through the Barly-place, I met with an old mumblar, that had more tusks than a wilde Boare, who came to me, & asked me, if I would cary a Trunk for her to a friend of hers not farre from thence, and shee would give me toure quartos. I had no sooner heard her, but I gave God thanks, that from so filthy a mouth as hers should proceed so sweet a speech

Fourre quartos make a Royall, which is six pence.

as that, Shee would give me foure Quartos I told her, Yes, with a very good will; though that very good will was more to finger the foure Quartos, than to carry the burden, having at that time more need to be carried my selfe, than to carry. I tooke up the Trunke with much ado, by reason it was great and heauy: the good woman bad me carry it faire and softly, because that within it were bottles of Waters, which shee esteemd very much. I answered her, that she should not need to feare that, I would goe softly enough; for though I would haue done otherwise, it had beene impossible for me, being so hungry that hardly I could put one foot before another. We came at length to the house where wee did carry the Trunke, the which they verie gladly receiued, especially a young Gentlewomen, plumpe and round-faced

fac'd (would all the cattell of my bed were such, my belly being full) who with a chearefull countenance said, that she would keepe it in her Closet. I carried it thither, and the old Woman gaue her the Key of it, desiring her to keepe it untill she returned from *Segonia*, where shee was going to visite a Kinswoman of hers, hoping to come backe againe within foure dayes. Then imbracing her, she tooke leaue of her, whispering her in the eare I know not what, which made the Damesell blush like a rose; (and although I then did like her very well, I should haue liked her farre better, had the vacuity of my guts beene stuffed with good provender) she tooke likewise leaue of all those of the house, desiring the Father and Mother of the Mayde to excuse her boldnesse and importunity; who told her, that their house was
at

at her command. shee gave mee foure Quartos; bidding mee in mine eare the next morning verie early to come to her house, and shee would make mee earne as much more. I departed more jocund than a Shroue-tuesday, or a Mid-sommers Eve. I supped with three of them, keeping one to pay for my lodging. I then fell to consider the power and vertue of money; for at the instant that the old woman had given mee those few Quartos, I found my selfe lighter than the winde, more valiant than *Hector*, & stronger than *Hercules*. O Money, it is not without reason that most men doe hold thee for their God: thou art the cause of all good, and the procurer also of all euill. Thou art the inuentor of all Arts, and the maintainer of them in their perfection. For thee are Sciences had in estimation, and with thee are o-

pinions

pinions defended. By thee cities are fortified, and againe by thee their strong towres are made leuell with the ground. By thee are kingdomes established, and by thee in the same instant overthrowne. Thou art the upholder of vertue, and againe the destroyer thereof. By thee Ladies do maintaine themselves chaste, & by thee many that are so, become others. Lastly, there is nothing in the world, be it never so hard, but to thee is easie; nothing so hidden, but thou canst penetrate; no hill so lofty, but thou canst pull downe; no dale so low, but thou canst eleuate. The next morning I went to the old Womans house, according as shee had appointed mee, who bade mee goe with her to fetch againe the Trunke which I had carried the day before. Being come to the house, shee told the Master and Mistris, that shee came for

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for her Trunke, by reason that upon the way to *Segovia* (about a mile from *Madrid*) shee had met with her Kinswoman, who came with the same intention (that shee went) to see her, and that therefore shee did need it instantly, to have out some cleane linnen that was in it, to give her entertainment. The Maide of a new stampe returned her the Key, kissing and imbracing her with more affection than at the first time; and after shee had whispered her againe in the eare, they helped up with the Trunke, which seemed unto me farre lighter than the day before, because my bellic was better provided. Coming downe the stayres; it was my chance to meete with I know not what stumbling block, which I thinke the Diuell of purpose had laid in my way, that made mee stumble and tumbled downe
Trunke

Trunke and all to the bottome of the stayres, where stood the Father and the mother of the simple and kind hearted VVench. I broke my Nose and short Ribs with the fall, and the damned Trunke, with the Knocks and Iouls, flew open. in it there appeared a young Gallant, without his Cloake, his Rapier and Dagger at his side, in a greene satin Sute, with a feather of the same colour, a paire of Carnation Garters and Roses, Crimson Silk Stockings, and white open shooes: who rising up very mannerly, & making a low reverence, straight went out of doores. They were so amazed with that suddain Vision, that they looked one upon another like so many Matachines or Anticks. But when they were come to themselves, they called in all haste two sonnes that they had, & with great storming, declared the matter unto them;

them: Who presently taking their Swords, and crying, Kill, Kill, went out to seeke the young Mad-cap. Buthee had posted away in such haste, that it was impossible for them to overtake him. The Father and Mother (who all this while had remained below stayres) shutting the doores fast, went up, thinking to revenge themselves upon the Baud: but shee that had heard the noyse, and knowne the cause thereof, had already with her Scholler in the O. Q. P. taken the ayre at a backe-doore. When they found themselves gulled, and pretented; they came downe and let flie at me, I being so sore, and bruised, that I could not stir; for otherwise I had waited upon him, for whose sake I was so ill handled. The two brothers returned sweating, and out of breath, swearing and vowing, That since they had not overtaken the villain;

laine, they would kil their sister and the Baud. But when they were told, that they had made an escape at the Back-side, then they fell a blaspheming, cursing, and swearing. The one said, Why doe I not meet now with the Devill himselve, with an infernall Cru^e, that I might make havock of them as of so many Flyes? Come Devill, Come. But now that I call thee, it is certaine, that where-soever thou art, thou dost feare my anger, and darrest not appeare before me. O had I but seen that Coward, with my very breath I had carried him so faire, as no body should ever have heard any newes of him. The other went on, saying, Had I not overtaken him, I would not have left one peece of him so big as his ear: but if he be in the world, nay, though he be not, hee shall not escape out of my hands; for I would plough him up, were he hid in the Centre of the

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Earth.

Earth. These and such like brags and threatnings did they thunder out, whilst poore *Lazaro* was expecting that all the storme should light upon him ; but yet I stood in more feare of tenne or twelve Boyes that were there, than of those Braggadillos. In the end, both great and small in a cluster fell upon my Iacket ; the one kicked me, the other thumped mee ; some pulled me by the haire, others boxed mee about the eares. My feare was not vaine : for the Boyes thrust great Pinnes into my Buttocks up to the head, which made mee skreek unto the heavens ; the slaves did so pinch me, that they made mee at noone-day see a thousand Starres. Some said, let us kill him ; others, It is better to throw him in the Privy. The hammering of mee was such, that they seemed Thrashers in a Barne, or Hammers of a Fulling-Mill, by reason of the perpe-

perpetuall Motion. At length seeing mee breathlesse, they desisted from beating, but not from threatening mee. The Father as most ripe, or most rotten, commanded them to let me alone ; and that if I would tell them truly who was the robber of their honour, they should not doe me any more harme : but I could not satisfie their desire, because I knew not who he was, having never seene him before hee came out of the Trunke. Seeing that I answered them nothing, they began a new to torment mee. There was the wayling, there the weeping for my mishap, there was the sighing, there was the cursing of my crosse fortune. But when I perceived, that continually they found new wayes to persecute mee, I prayed them as well as I could to forbear me, and that I would tell them all the businesse. They did so ; and I told

them without any omission, what had passed ; but they would give no credit to the truth. Feeling the storme to continue, I determined to coozen them, if it were possible, & therefore I promised to informe them, who the Malefactor was ; whereupon they left thrashing of mee, promising me wonders. They asked me his name, & where hee lived. I answered, that I knew it not ; and lesse, that of the Street wherein hee dwelt : but that, if they would carry mee (for it was impossible for mee to goe, they had so misused me) I would shew them his house. That pleased them well, and therefore they gave me a little Wine, with the which I came againe to my selfe : then (being well armed) two of them tooke me under the armes, like a *French Lady*, & led me through *Madrid*. Some that did see mee, said, They carry that man to Prison ; others, to the Hospitall : but none did
hit

hit the mark. I went amazed, and astonished, not knowing either what to say, or what to doe ; for I durst not cry out for helpe, lest they should complaine of mee to the Iustices, whom I feared more than death it selfe : and to run away was impossible, not onely by reason of my former ill usage, but also for being betweene the Father, Sonnes, and Kinsfolkes, who for that purpose had joyned themselves, eight or nine together, armed at all points, like so many *S. Georges*. Wee crossed many Streets, and went through many Lanes, not knowing where I was, or whither I did lead them. At length wee came to the Sun-Gate, and downe a Street right over-against it, I perceived a Gallant that came tripping it upon the toes, his Cloake jerked under one arme, a peece of a Glove in one hand, and a Gilly-flower in the other, his arme keeping time with his foot, so

that one would have taken him for the cousin germane to the Duke of *Infantado* : hee made a thousand severall faces and odde countenances. I knew him at the instant to be the Squire my Master, who had stollen away my Cloathes at *Murcia* : and without doubt, some Saint or other (for I had not left one unprayed to in all the Letany) had brought him thither for my redemption. As I saw the occasion offer it selfe so faire, I caught hold of it by the fore-top, and with one stone I determined to kill two Birds, that is to bee revenged of that bragging Cheater, and to free my selfe from those hang-men. Which to bring to passe, I said unto them, Gentlemen, looke about you, for yonder commeth the Gallant, that hath robbed you of your honour, who hath only changed his Apparell. They blinded with rage and anger, without

without any further discourse, asked mee which was hee. I pointed him out unto them : Whereupon they rushed upon him, and taking him by the Collar, threw him to the ground, where they kicked and cuffed him out of all measure. One of the young striplings, Brother to the Gentlewoman, would have run him through with his Sword, but that his father hindered him; and called Officers to their helpe, they bound him hand and foot. When I perceived the Cards to bee thus shuffled, and that they were all busie, as well as I could, I began to shew them a faire paire of heeles, and went and hid my selfe. My honest squire (who knew me) thinking they were some of my acquaintance, that demanded my Apparell, did cry out unto them, Let mee alone, Let me alone, and I will pay for two Sutes. But they stopped

his mouth with good blowes with their fists; and all bloody, bruised, and broken-headed, carried him to Prison: And I tooke my leave of *Madrid*, cursing both the Occupation, and the first inventor of it.

CHAP. XI.

How Lázaro parted from Madrid, to goe into his owne Countrey: and what hapned unto him upon the way.

I Was minded to put my selfe, on my way, but I found my strength faire unequall to my courage; for which cause, I remained yet some dayes in *Madrid*: which I passed well enough, by reason, that helping my selfe with Crutches (without which I was not able to goe) I went begging from doore to doore, and from Covent to Covent, till I found my selfe strong enough, and able to travell. I made

made the more haste, for a thing that I heard related by a Begger, who, with others, was lowfing himselfe in the Sunne. It was the historie of the Trunke, as already I have told it: adding, that the man whom they had imprisoned, thinking it had beene he of the Trunke, had prooved the contrary; for at the very instant that the businesse hapned, he was at his lodging, and no body thereabouts had seene him with other apparell than that wherewith they had taken him: but that notwithstanding he had been exposed to the publike shame of a Vagabond, and banished *Madrid*; Hee told also, how the Gentlemans friends did seeke for a Porter, that had dressed that Messie of Knavery, swearing to make a Syve of his skin with their Rapiers, if ever they met him. I opened my eyes, to prevent this accident, clapping a patch upon one of them, and shaving my beard like

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like a Monke ; for I assured my selfe that in this disguise , the Mother that bare mee , could not have knowne me. I departed from *Madrid* , with intention to goe to *Teiares* , to try if (being new moulded) Fortune would mistake mee. I passed by the *Escuriall* , a Building which doth speake the greatnesse of the Monarch that did erect it , (for it was not yet altogether finished) and is such , that it may bee reckoned among the marvels of the World ; though it cannot bee said , that the pleasant situation hath been a motive to build it there , the ground being very barren and hilly : but well , the temperatnesse of the ayre ; which in Summer is such , that removing onely to the shade , the Heat is not troublesome , nor the Cold offensive , but exceeding wholesome. Within lesse than two miles from thence , I met with a company of Gipsyes ,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

Gipsyes , lodged in an old decayed house : who as soon as they perceived mee a farre off , thought I was some one of their Troupe , for my attire did promise no lesse : but comming neerer , they saw their error , and were somewhat daunted with my presence , because (as farre as I could perceive) they held a Consultation , or were debating an Election. They told mee , that that was not the right way to *Salamanca* , but to *Valledolid* . Seeing my businessse bid not constraime mee to goe rather to one place than to another , I told them , that since it was so , I would see that Cicie , before I went into my Countrey. One of the ancientest asked mee , whence I was ? and understanding that I was of *Teiares* , he invited me to dinner for neighbourhoods sake. for hee was of *Salamanca* . I accepted his offer ; and afterwards they desired mee to

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to relate unto them my life, and adventures. I did it, without any farther intreaty, as briefly as things of such moment could permit. When I came to speak of the Tub, and what had hapned unto me in an Inne at *Madrid*, I made them laugh extreemly, especially two Gipseyes, a Man and a Woman, who could scarce stand for laughing. I began to be ashamed, and to blush, when the old Gipseye, my Countrey man, who had taken notice thereof, said unto mee; Be not out of countenance, Brother: for these Gentles doe not laugh at your life; being such, as it rather deserveth admiration than laughter; of which, since you have given us so full an account, it is reasonable, that wee pay you in the same Coyne. Wherefore, resting upon your prudence, as you have done upon ours, if the company will give mee leave, I will tell you the occasion of their laughter. Every one answered,

of Lazavillo de Tormes.

ed, that hee was well content; for they knew that his great discretion and experience would not suffer him to goe beyond the limits of reason. Know then (said he) that those two whom you see yonder, almost out of breath with laughing, are the Priest and the Damsell, that leaped naked out at the Window, when the inundation of your Tub had like to have drowned them; who (if they please) will tell you how and by what means they have attained to this state of life. The Gipseye offered her selfe very willingly, and craving the benevolence of the worthy Auditorie, with a loud, but gentle and grave voyce, she thus began her owne story: The day that I came out. or (to say better) that I leaped out of my Fathers House, they carried mee to Prison, and put mee in a chamber, rather darke than cleane, and farre more stinking than handsome. As for the worshipfull Master

Master *Vrvez*, who is here present, and may disprove mee if I speake untruth, they clapped him up in the Dungeon, till hee told them that hee was a Priest : wherefore they presently sent him to the under Bishop, who very sharply reprehended him for having beene so faint-hearted, as for a little Water to have leaped out at a Window before all the World, and given such a scandall: But with promise that hee made him, to bee more wary and circumspect another time, and to doe his business in such sort, as the ground it selfe should not bee privie to his ingresse and egress, hee let him goe, enjoyning him for penance, That for three dayes hee should not sing Masse. I remained in the custody of the chiefe Keeper or Captaine of the Prison ; who being youthfull and lusty, and I young, and not unhandsome, did whatsoever hee could to

to please mee. The Prison to mee was a Palace, and Garden of delights. My Father and my Mother, though greatly displeased with my loosenesse, did what they could to set mee loose, but all in vaine, for the Captaine did worke all possible meanes to detaine mee still in his keeping. In the meane time, Master Licenciat, here present, went round about the Prison, like a setting Dogge, to see if hee could speake with mee : which at length he did, by the meanes of a Baud, the best of her Profession ; who dressed him in the attire of one of her Maids, with a Petticoat and Waistcoat, and a Muffler before his Beard, as if hee had had the Mumpes : at this interview was the plot laid for my escape. The night following, there was great feasting and revelling at the Earle of *Miranda's* House, and in the end the Gipseys were to dance ;
with

with whom *Canil* (for so is there-
verend *Vrvez* now called) comforted
himselfe, to have their helpe in his
pretences: which they so well execu-
ted (thanks to his wit and industry)
that we enjoy both our desired liber-
ty, and his company, that is the best
in the world. The after-noon before
the Feast, the Capitaine kept more
fiddling about mee, than a Cat about
a Tripe-Wife; and made mee more
protestations and promises, than a
passenger in a storme at Sea: all which
(is bound thereunto) I encountred
again with the like. Hee desired me
to aske him whatsoever I would, and
hee would grant it me, so it were not
to be deprived of my presence. I thank
d him very much, telling him, that
to want his, would be to me the great-
est mischance that ever could hap-
pen unto me. Perceiving I had hit the
marke, I intreated him to carry mee
that night (since well he might) to the
Earles

Earles house, to see the dancing. This
thing seemed very hard unto him;
neverthelesse, not to goe back from
his word, and because the little blinde
Archer had wounded him with one
of his Arrowes, he did promise it me.
Now was the High Sheriffe in love
with me, and had given charge to all
the Guards, and to the Capitaine him-
selfe, to give me good entertainment,
& to have a care that nobody should
carry me forth. To convey me there-
fore more closely to the Revels, hee
attyred mee like a Page: my Dou-
blet and Hose were of greene Da-
mask layed with Gold Lace; the
Cloake of Velvet, of the same colour,
lined through with yellow Satin; a
Bonnet with a Herons-top and fea-
ther, and a Diamond Hatband; a
Ruffe with seaming Lace, and Peakes;
Straw-colour Stockins; great Garters
and Roses, futable to mine Apparell;
a paire of White pinckt Shoes; with

a gilded Rapier and Dagger, according to the fashion. We came to the Banqueting Roome, and found there a great number of Ladies and Gentlemen ; the Gentlemen joviall, and in good equipage ; the Ladies gallant, and beautifull : and also many muffled up in their Cloakes, and Women with Veyles. *Canil* was dressed like a Roarer ; and seeing me, came straightwayes on the other side of mee ; so that I was betweene him and the Captaine. The Revelling began ; where I saw things, which because they belong not to what I intend to speake of, I will omit. But at length the Gipseys came to dance, and shew trickes : whereupon two of them grew towards, and so from one thing to another, the one gave the other the Lye ; who answered him with a slash with his Sword over the head, that made him bleed like an Ox. The company, that till then had

had thought they had beene in jest, began to bee amazed, and to cry out, Help, help. Some Officers and Sergeants that were there, began to bestir themselves. Every one put his hand to his Sword, and I drew mine ; but when I saw it naked in my hand, I fell a quivering for very feare of it. They layed hold on the offender and there wanted not some, who (being there set for the purpose) said, That the Captaine of the Prison was there, to whose charge they might deliver him. The High Sheriffe called him out, to give him charge of the Murtherer. He would willingly have carried mee along with him: but fearing lest I should be knowne, hee bade mee with-draw my selfe into a corner which hee shewed mee, and not to stirre from thence, untill hee returned. When I saw the Crab-lowe had let goe his hold, I tooke my *Dominie Canil* (who was still at my elbow)

bow) by the hand, and in two strides wee got out into the street, where we found one of these Gentlemen, who brought us to their *Rendez vous*. When the wounded man (whom already every one thought to be dead) imagined in himselfe that wee were escaped, hee rose up and said, Gentlemen, the jest shall end here, for I am in good health ; and what hath beene done, hath been onely to make sport to the company. And with that hee pulled off the Cap he had on, under the which (upon an Iron Skull) was an Oxes bladder full of blood for that purpose ; which, with the blow that the other had given him, had beene broken, and so spilt. Every one fell a laughing at the jest, except the Captaine, who found it to bee a troublesome one: for coming to the place appointed, and not finding me there, he began to seek up and down the roome, till that asking an old Gipsy

Gipsy woman, if shee had not seene a Page with such and such tokens, she (that knew the whole drift) told him, Yea, and that shee had heard him say as hee went out, holding a man by the hand, Let us goe retire our selves to S. *Philips*. Hee went thither in all haste, for to seeke mee, but to little purpose ; for hee went towards the East, and we fled towards the West. Before we left *Madrid*. I had changed my Cloathes for others, and had two hundred Ryals to boot : I sold the Hat-bâd for foure hundred Crownes, whereof I gave two hundred to these Gentlemen, for our entrance into their company ; for so had *Caril* covenanted with them. This is the whole discourse of my liberty : If Master *Lazaro* doth desire any thing else, let him command, and he shall be served, according as his worthy and joviall presence doth deserve. I thanked her for her courtesie ; and with as much

as I was able, I took my leave of them all. The good old man brought mee a mile on my way : and as we went, I asked him it all those that were there, were Gipseys, borne in *Egypt*. He answered me, The Devill a one there was in all *Spain* ; but that they were all Priests, Friers, Nuns, or Theeves that had broke out of Prison, or out of their Cloysters : but yet that among them all, those that came from Monasteries, were the greatest and most notorious Villaines, changing a contemplative life into an active. He returned to his company, and I on horseback upon S. *Francis* his Mule, followed my way to *Valledolid*.

C H A P.

C H A P. XII.

*What hapned to Lazaro in a Tauerne
two miles off from Valledolid.*

ALl the way long did I nothing but thinke upon my good Gipseys, their life, customes and behaviour. I wondered much, how the Magistrates would suffer publike Theeves to goe so freely and openly ; all the World knowing, that to filch and steale, is their onely Imployment & Occupation. They are the Refuge and Receptracle of all Rogues ; the Sanctuarie for Apostataes, and the Schoole of all mischief. But chiefly I did marvell, that Friers should forsake their sweet and quiet life, for the miserable and toilesome life of a Gipsy. Neither had I beleevd to bee true, what the old Gipsy

T 4 told

told me ; had he not showne mee, halfe a mile from the place where they were lodged, behinde the Wall of a Close, a Man and a Woman Gipsy : he frolick and lustie, she plump and comely ; hee not parched with the Sunne, shee not blasted with the unkindnesse of the Weather: The one sung a Verse of the Psalmes of *David*; the other answered with another. The good old man assured mee, that they were a Frier and a Nunne ; who, not above eight dayes before, were come to their Congregation, with a desire to make profession of a most austere life. I followed my way, untill I came to a Taverne two miles off from *Valledolid*; at the doore whereof, I found sitting the old Woman of *Madrid*, and the young Gentlewoman, of whom I have spoken. There came out a young Gallant, to bid them come in to Dinner. They could not know me, I was so disguised, with my Patch still upon

upon my Eye, and my Cloathes right Beggers Cut : but I knew my selfe to be that *Lazaro* that was come out of the Grave, that had beene so costly unto mee. I went in after them, and stood before them, to see if they would give me somewhat : but it had beene a hard matter for them to do, having not enough for themselves, for the worthy Gentleman, that had played the Steward, had beene so liberall, that for himselfe, his Sweetheart, and the old Baud, hee had caused to be made ready a little Hogs Liver, with a sawce to whet their appetite, all which, I could easily have gobbled up, in lesse than two Morfels. The Bread was as black as the Table-Cloth, which seemed like the Cassock of some Penitent, or the Maunking wherewith a Oven is made cleane. Eat, my Love (said the Gentleman) for this a diet for a Prince. The Baud fell to roundly, and said not one word for

The ghostly Fathers enjoinne to some for a penance, to wear back Buckram Caslocks with a Wax Candle in their hands, to accompanie others that doe whip themselves.

for feare of losing time, because shee saw that shee was not to goe often to the dish ; which they began to lick, and rubbe so hard, that (it being of Earth) they scraped away all the Var-nish. Their pitifull and short Meale being ended, (which had rather provoked, than in any manner asswaged their hunger) the gentle Lover made his excuse, saying, That the Taverne was unprovided. I seeing that there was nothing there for mee, asked the Hoste, If hee had any thing to eat? who answered me. According to the pay; and would have given me a little Hog-Hastlet: but I asked him, if he had nothing else? he offered me a Quarter of Kidde, that the amorous Gallant had refused because it was too deare. I thought to come over them with a Bravado, & so I bad him give it me. I went and sate downe with it at the lower end of the Table ; where, it was a sport to see how

how they looked upon mee. Every bit that I put into my mouth, did draw six eyes after it ; for those of the Lover, of the Gentlewoman, and of the Baud, were nayled to what I did eat. How comes it to passe (said the Dam-sell) that yonder Begger doth eat a Quarter of Kidde, and we three have had nothing but a poore peece of fryed Liver? The Gallant answered, That he had asked the Hoste for Partridges, Capons, or hens, & that he had told him, that he had nothing else to give him. I, that knew how the matter went (and that for feare of spending, or for not having where-withall, hee had dieted them) did notwithstanding hold my peace, and ply my victuals. I thinke in my conscience, that that Kiddees meat was a Loadstone : for when I least tooke heed, I found them all three round about my Dish. The shamelesse and brazen-faced Wench tooke a peece, and

and said, Brother by your leave ; but before she had it, it was already in her mouth. The old Mumbler replied, Do not take away the poore Wretch his meat from him. I will not take it away (answered she) for I doe meane to pay him very well for it; and in saying so, shee fell to it with such haste and greedinesse, that it seemed shee had not eaten in six dayes before. The good Marron tooke a bit, to know how it tasted. What (saith my Gallant) doe you like it so well ? and therewith pops mee a peece in his mouth as bigge as his fist. But I perceiving them to grow somewhat too bold, tooke all that was in the Dish, and made but one mouthfull of it; which was so great, that I could neither get it backward nor forward. Being in this perplexity, there came to the Taverne gate 2. horsemen, armed with coats of Mayle, Head-peece, and Bucklers, ech of them carrying

carrying a Petronell at his side, and another at their Saddlebow : who alighting, gave their Mules to a Footman, and asked the Hoste if he had any thing to eat ? he answered them, That he had wherewith to give them good entertainment ; and therefore, if it pleased their Worships, they might walke into the Hall, whilst Meat was a making ready. The old Woman, who hearing the noyse, was gon our to the doore, & came straight in againe, with her two hands upon her face, bending and bowing her body a thousand times like a new hooded Monke, speaking as out of a Trunke, and wristing and wringling now one side, then the other, as if she had beene in Child-birth, as low and as well as she could, shee said, Wee are all undone ; for the Brothers of Clara (for so was the Gentlewoman called) are at the Gate. The young Wench hearing this, began to take on,

on, and to pull her selfe by the haire,
& to thumb and mis-use her selfe, as if
shee had been out of her wits. But the
young Gallant, that was stout & cou-
ragious, comforted her, and bade her
bee of good cheare; and that where he
was, shee needed not to feare any
thing. I (who all this while had still
the great peece of Kid in my mouth)
when I understood that those Swash-
bucklers were there, was like to
have died for feare; and had died in-
deed, had it not been that my Throat
being stopped with the Mear,
my Soule could find no passage to
get out, and therefore was con-
strained to returne againe into her
place. The two roaring Boyes came
in; and as soone as they perceived
their sister, and the old Hagge, they
cryed out, Here they bee; Now we
have them, Kill, Kill them. At this up-
roare, I was so affrighted, that I fell to
the ground; and with the fall, I cast
out

out the Kidde that did choake mee.
The two Women put themselves be-
hinde the Gentleman, as Chickens doe
under the hennies wings, when they
runne away from a Kite. Hee with a
brave spirit drew out his Rapier, and
went towards them with such fury,
that for very feare they stood still like
two Statues, their words being frozen
in their mouths and their Swords in
their Scabards. He asked them what
they would, or what they sought?
and with that comming to the one,
hee pulled out his Sword, holding the
point thereof at his eyes, and of his
owne at the eyes of the other, so
that at the least motion of the
Swords, they quaked and trem-
bled like Leaves upon a Tree. The
old Woman and the Sister seeing the
two *Branachios* so heartlesse, came to
them, and disarmed them. The Host
came in at the noyse that we made
(for I was already got up, and had
one

one of them by the Beard) not unlike to the counterfeit Bulls of my Country, which children at first sight doe flie from ; but growing bolder by little and little, and perceiving that they are nor wilde, nor what they seeme to be, doe come so neere them, that (having lost all feare) they cast and hang upon them a thousand Dish-clothes. So I seeing that those scar-crowes were not what they appeared to be, tooke hart at grasse, and set upon them with as much boldnesse as my former feare could afford me. What is the matter here, said the host? What stirre is this in my house? The Woman, the Gentleman, and I began to cry out, They are Theeves, that come following us, for to rob us. The Host that saw thē without their weapons, and as with the victory, said, What? Theeves in my house? And thereupon layd hands upon them, & with our helpe, did put them into a

Vault

Vault under ground, notwithstanding any thing they could alledge to the contrarie. Their man, who by this time had given meat to their Mules, comming in & asking for his Masters, was by the Host sent to keepe them company. Then did hee take their Cloakebagges, Mayles, and other furniture, and locked them up; dividing their Weapons between us, as if they had beene his owne. Hee asked nothing of us for his Meat, that wee might be Witnesses in the Information which he had made against them; upon the which, as an Officer of the Inquisition (which he said hee was) and as Justice of that place, hee condemned them all three to the Gallies for ever, and each of them to two hundred stripes round about the Taverne. They appealed unto the *Chancerie* of *Valledolid*, whither the good host, and three of his servants did carry them. But when the unfor-

V

fortunate

fortunate Wretches thought they had beene before the secular Iudges, they found themselves before the Inquisitors : for the subtil and malicious Taverner had put within the Informations certaine speeches that they had said against the Ministers of the holy Inquisition ; an irremissible offence. They put them in darke Dungeons ; from whence (as they thought to have done) they could not write to their Father, nor come to the speech of any that might help them. And there wee will leave them in good hold, to returne to our host, whom wee met on the way : who told us, That the Lords of the Inquisition had given him charge to bring before them the Witnesse, that had given evidence in the cause ; but that notwithstanding (as our friend) hee did advise us to absent our selves. The Gentlewoman gave him a Ring that shee had

had upon her finger ; desiring him so to worke, as wee might not appeare before them : hee did promise it. Now had the Rascall said this, onely to make us be gone ; for feare that (if wee had beene heard) his Villanie (which was not the first) should have beene discovered. About a fortnight after, there was a generall Execution [at *Valledolid* ; where, among other prisoners, I saw the three poore Devills come forth with Gags in their mouthes, as Blasphemers, that had beene so presumptuous as to touch with their tongue the Ministers of the holy Inquisition ; men even as holy and perfect, as the Justice they doe administrate. They wore each of them a penitent Garment, called a *Saubeño*, and a Paper Miter upon their heads ; whereon were written their offences, and the punishment to be inflicted upon them for the same. It grieved me to

see the poore Foot-man pay what he did not owe : as for the two other, I had not so much pittie of them, for the little they had of mee. They confirmed the Sentence of the host, adding moreover and above to every one of them three hundred stripes: so that they gave them five hundred a peece, and sent them to the Gallies, where their brags and bravadoes had leasure to take breath & coole themselves. For my part, I did seeke my fortune, and many times in * *Magdelaine* Field did I meet the two Women, who never yet knew mee, nor thought that I had knowne them. A while after I saw the young Gentlewoman, who had taken up a Lodging, where she lay backwards, and did let her foreroomes, to get wherewith to maintaine her selfe and her Gallant. As for the old Woman, shee fell againe to her old Trade in that Citie.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

*How Lazaro was Gentleman Vssber
to seven severall Women
at one time.*

I Came to *Valledolid* with six Rials in my Purse ; by reason that every one seeing me so leane and so pale, did give mee their Charities very freely, and I was not slack in receiving. I went directly to the Brokers ; where for foure Ryals and a *Quartil-lo* I bought mee a long Frize Cloake, that had beene some Portugals, even as thredbare as tattered and unsown ; wherewith & a high Steeple-crownd Hat, with broad brims, like a *Franciscan* Fryer, that I bought for halfe a Ryall, and with a staffe in my hand, I walked the streets. All that saw mee, did laugh at me, and every one gave mee their Squib. One called me *Ta-*

A *Quartil-lo* is three halfe pence.

V 3

verne

Magdelaine Field is a place to walk in at *Valledolid*, as *Moore Field* in *London*.

verne Philosopher : another, Behold where Saint *Peter* goeth, apparelled as on a holy-day Eve. Some would say; Gentlemen of *Portugall*, will you have any Grease to anoint your Boots? Others there were, who affirmed, that I seemed to be the Ghost of some hospitall Physician. But I with Merchants eares, heard all, said nothing, and still passed on. I had not gone through many Streets, when I met a Woman with a great Fardingale, and Pattens of the largest size, who leaned her hand upon a Boyes head, and was covered with a Cypres Veyle unto her stomach; she asked mee, if I could tell her of any Gentleman-Viſher : I answered her, that I knew of none, but my self, of whom (if it pleased her) she might dispose as of her owne. The agreement was made betwixt us without any farther delay, shee promising me for meat, drinke and wages, three

quartillos

quartillos a day. I tooke possession of the Office, and gave her my arme, and threw away my staffe, as having now no more need of it, for I carried it onely to be thought sick, and move people to compassion. Shee sent the Boy home, bidding him tell the Maide shee should lay the Cloth, and make ready dinner. She led me above two houres up & downe from one place to another. The first visite wee came at, the good Gentlewoman warned me, that whē wee came nigh the house that shee was to goe to, I should run before and inquire if the Master or the Mistresse were within, and say, My Mistresse *Ieane Perez* (for that was her name) is here, who desireth to kisse their hands. She told me moreover, that when shee did stay any where, I was never to have my hat on before her : I answered her, that I knew very well the duty of a Servant, and that I

That is 4.
pence half
penny.

would perform it. I had an exceeding desire to see the face of my new Mistress, but I could not, because she was veiled. Shee told mee that she could not maintaine me alone for her selfe; but that she would finde some of her neighbours whom I might serve, and that betweene them they would give mee the consideration shee had promised mee, and in the meane time (till they were consoorted, which would bee very shortly) shee would pay me her part. Shee asked mee, if I knew where to lye a Nights? I told her, No. You shall not want Lodging (said shee) for my husband is a Taylor, and hath Prentices, with whom you shall share Bedding: You could not have found a better place in the whole City; for before three dayes be at an end, you shall have six Mistresses, and every one shall give you a Quarro, which will be three Blankes more than I have promised you.

3. Blankes
are three
farthings.

you. I could not but wonder at the state and gravity of that Woman, who seemed (at the least) the Wife of some great Gentleman, or wealthy Citizen: and withall, it astonished me to consider, how for three poore Quartillos, and three Blankes a day, I was to waite upon seven Mistresses. But I considered, that something was better than nothing, and that the Office was not painefull, a thing I hated as the Devill himseife: for I have alwayes chosen rather to eat Cabbage and Garlike without working; than to worke, and feed upon hennes and Capons. When wee came home, shee gave me her Veyle and Pattens, to deliver them to the Maid, and then I saw what I so much desired. I found, that my little Woman was handsome enough; shee was browne, of a good behaviour, and comely feature. What I only disliked in her, was, that her face did shine like an Earthen Porringer

The pursuit of the History

renger, varnished. Shee gave me the Quarto, bidding mee come twice a day, once at eight a clock in the morning, and againe at three in the afternoone, to know if she would goe abroad, or no. I went from thence to a Cookes-shop, and with a Pye of a quarto I made an end of my allowance, passing the rest of the day like a Cameleon; for I had already spent the Almes that had beene given mee upon the way, and durst not fall a begging againe, for my Mistresse (if shee had knowne it) would have eaten mee quick. I went to her house at three a clock; shee told mee, that shee would not goe forth, but that shee would have me know, that from thence forwards shee would pay nothing that day shee went not abroad, and if so bee shee went out but once in a whole day, I should then have but two Maravedies. Furthermore, she said, that since she allowed mee my

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

my bedding, shee did also expect to be served before all others, and that I should entitle my selfe her servant. The Bed (to speake truth) was such, as it deserved well that prerogative and much more, for shee made mee ly with her Prentises upon a great Table, and the devill any thing else there was, but an old rotten thred-bare Blanket to cover us. I passed foure dayes with the plentiful Diet that foure Maravedies could afford mee, and at the end of them, there entred into the society a Taverners Wife who was above an houre in bargaining for the poore Quarto. To conclude, within five dayes I found seven Mistresses, and seven Quartos a day of allowance, so that I began to live very splendidiously, drinking not of the worst Wine, though not altogether of the best, that so I might cut my Cloake according to my cloath.

A Maravedy is the least money they have in Spaine, & is worth a little above halfe a farthing of our money.

cloth. The other five were, a Sergeants widow, a Gardners wife, the barefooted Nunnes Chaplaines Neece (for so she stiled her selfe) a Wench for any thing; & a Tripe-wife, whom I did best affect, because that when shee did pay me her Quarto, shee would alwayes bid me to some of her Tripe-broath, of the which before I went out of her house, I would send some three or foure Porrengers full into my guts; so that I lived so well that I pray God I may never live worse. The last was a devout woman (called a *Beata*) with whom I had more to doe, than with all the rest; for we never visited any but Monkes and Friers, with whom when she was alone, shee was in her kingdome: her house was like a Bee-hive, some went out, and other came in, but all of them with their great sleeves stored with one thing or other. They gave mee (that I might be secret) some peeces of

of meat, which they saved in their sleeves, out of their allowance in the Covent. I never saw in all my life a better hypocrite than this my Mistresse was; when she went through the street she never lifted her eyes from the ground, and her beads were never out of her hands wherewith she still mumbled her prayers. All such as knew her would desire her to pray to God for them, for without doubt her prayers were very acceptable unto him. Shee would answer them, that shee was a great sinner (wherein she lyed not, but couzened them with the naked truth. Now had every one of these my Mistresses their set houres, when one had told me that she would not stirre forth, I went to another till I had ended my taske. But especially I was (and that without faile) to goe find them againe at my appointed time; for if by mischance I missed never so little, then would my Mistresse, before

before all the company that she visited, scold and rayle me out of my skin ; and threaten me, that if I continued in this carelesnesse and negligence, shee should seeke out another Gentleman-Vther that should bee more diligent, observant, and punctuall. So that to heare her brawle & threaten with such arrogancy, a man would have thought shee had given me every day 2. Ryals for my diet onely, and 30. Duckets a yeere standing Wages. When they went abroad, one would have taken them for the wives of some Presidents of *Castilla*, at the least of some Countsellours. It fortun'd one day that the Chaplaines Neece, and the Sergeants Wife met together in a Church, and being both of them to returne home at the same time, there arose a great controversie betweene them, which of the two I was to accompany, making a noyse as if they had bin
in

in a Faire. They pulled and tugged mee, one of this side, another of that side, with such rage and fury, that at length they tore my Cloak in peeces, leaving me starke naked; for the devill any other cloathes had I under it but a ragged shirt that looked like a fishermans net. Those that through the casements thereof did cast their eyes upon the nudity of my flesh, did burst out into extreme laughter. Some would mocke poore *Lazaro* ; and others gave eare to the two women who pulled their grand fathers out of their graves. The haste I had to gather up againe the peeces of my Cloak, which, for being somewhat too ripe, were fallen to the ground, would not permit me to heare what they said one to another ; only I heard the widdow say, Where hath this Baggage (I wonder) gotten all this pride ? but yesterday shee was a Tankard-wench,
and

and to day she ruffles it in her silkes, at the cost of the soules in Purgatory. The other replied. But you Mistresse Wag-taile do mince it in your Steam-mel, earned of those who with a *Deo gratias*, and a God reward you, doe pay for whatsoever they possesse: and if I yesterday carried the water Tankard, you beare to day the wine bottle. The company that stood by parted them, for they had already one another fast by the hair. Having gathered up the dismembred member of my poore cloake, I asked a couple of pinnes of a mumblar of Pater-nosters that was there, wherewith I mended it as well as I could to hide my nakednesse: and leaving them brawling, I went me to my Mistresse the Taylors wife, who had warned me to come and fetch her at eleven a clock, because she was to goe to dinner at a friends house; when she saw mee in this pickle, she began to fall a

scoulding

scoulding at mee; saying, What doe you think to earne my money by waiting on mee thus like a Rogue? with farre lesse wages than I give you I could have a Gentlman-Vther with handsome Trousers, a neat Doublet, a good Cloake and a comely Bonnet; and you doe nothing but Tipple up all I give you. What Tippling (said I to my selfe) with seven poore Quartos that I earne a day, when I earne the most, for many passed that my Mistresses for feare of paying me my Quarto, would not goe abroad. Shee made the peeces of my Cloake to be stitched one to another, and for very haste they put them upside downe-wards, in which manner I waited on her.

CHAP. XIII.

*Lazaro rehearsed what happened
at a banquet.*

WE posted like a Fryer invited to a feast ; for the good Lady feared there should not bee enough for her. Wee came to her friends house, where wee found other women that were likewise invited, who asked my Mistresse, Whether I was sufficient to keepe the doore ? shee answered them, Yes. Then they said to mee, Stand here brother, to day you shall fare Royally. There came in many Gallants, every one pulling out of his pocket, this man a Partridge, and that man a Henne ; one brought forth a Rabbet, another a paire of Pigeons ; this a peece of Mutton, that a chine of Porke ; some drew out Sawfises or Chit-

terlings ;

terlings : and such a one there was, that pulled out a Pye of a Ryall wrapped up in his handkercher. They delivered all to the Cooke, and whilest dinner was in preparing, they sported with the Gentlewoman. What passed there betweene them, is neither lawfull for me to rehearse, nor for the Reader to contemplate. But the play being ended, meat was served in, and all fared down, the Gentlewomen plying the dishes soundly ; and the Gallants taking their Cups roundly. What remained upon the table, the women put it up in their pockets. The Gentlemen returning to their handkerchiefs, drew forth their last course. One brought out apples, another Cheese, another Olives, & one of them (who was the chiefe and stirred the Taylers wife) drew out halfe a pound of Comfits. This manner of carrying meat so neere at hand for any ne-

cessity, did please me wondrous well, and therefore from thence forwards, I purposed to make three or foure pockets in the first breeches that God should send mee (for at that time I had not any) and one of them should be such leather as black Iacks are made of, very well sowne to put porridge in. For if those Gallants that were so rich, and so noted, did bring all the provision in their pockets : and the Gentlewomen did carry it away crammed within theirs ; I (who was but Vsher to a crew of Cockatrices) might very well doe it. Wee went at length among us servants to dinner, and the devill any thing else was there for us, but porridge and Sops. I wondered that the good Ladies had not also put that into their wide sleeves. Wee had hardly begun to eat, when we heard a great noyse in the Roome where our Masters were. They disputed who their Parents had bin, & what

what the Womens husbands were ; untill that leaving words, they fell roundly to blowes, and pell-mell one with another, did let hands, feet, teeth, and nayles doe their function, in scratching, biring, kicking, cuffing, and tugging one another by the haire. The occasion of this Uprore was, that some of the Gallants would neither give, nor pay any thing to the Gentlewomen, telling them, that what they had eaten, did suffice. It chanced that upon this stirre, a Commissarie, with other officers of Iustice, did passe through the street ; who hearing the noyse, came to the door, & charged them to open in the Kings Name : Which words being heard, every one began to run, one this way, another that way : One left his Cloak, another his Sword : This woman left her Pattens ; that, her Veyle : so that all vanished, and hid themselves, every one where best he could. I, (who

had done nothing for which I should runne away) did not stirre; but (as I was Porter) opened the Doore, least they should accuse mee to have resisted the Kings Officers. The first Sergeant that entred, taking first hold of mee by the neck, said, That hee arrested mee: and being thus in his hold, they shut fast the Doores, and went to seeke those that had made the noyse. They left no Chamber, Closet, Buttery, cellar, Garret, nor Privie unsearched: but seeing they could finde no body, they tooke my examination. I confessed from one end to the other, who those were that were there, and what they had done. They wondered, that there being so many, as I said; they could not finde any: And, to speake the truth, I my selfe was much amazed at it, for there were twelve Men, and six Women. Wherefore I told them

(as

(as indeed I did beleeeve it) that I thought, that all those that had beene there, & made that noyse, were Spirits; whereupon they fell a laughing at mee. The Commissarie asked those that had beene in the Cellar, if they had searched well in every corner? They answered him, Yes. But he, not satisfied therewith, caused a Torch to be lighted, to goe downe himsele. Enteing at the Doore, they saw a great Tubbe rowle up and downe the Cellar; wherewith the Sergeants being frighted, beganne to runne away, saying, By God this man saith true, here are nothing but Hobgoblins. The Commissary, who was more crafty, stayed them, saying, That hee did not feare the Devill; & with that, went to the Tub, and opening it, found within it a Man and a Woman, both of them as naked as their Mother brought them into the

World, by reason, that when the said Commissary did knock at the doore, they were a bed together upon terms of agreement, and had not had the leasure, upon the sudden Alarm, to take their Clothes; but as they were, had hid themselves within that empty Tub. They were all amazed to see them both so faire; but casting Cloakes upon them, they committed them to the custodie of two Sergeants, and went on to seek the others. The Commissarie discovered a great Earthen vessell full of oyle, within the which hee found a man cloathed, and up to the breast in the said oyle: who (as soone as they perceived him) thought to have leaped forth; which he could not doe so artificially, but that both hee and the vessell came to the ground, so that the oyle did rebound up to their Hats, and without any respect, stained them all; which made them curse both the Officer, and the

the Devill that first invented it. The Oylie man, seeing that nobody did stay him, (but to the contrary, that all fled from him as from a mad Dogge) betooke himselfe to his heeles; and though the Commissary cryed out, Stay him, Stay him, yet nevertheless every one gave him way, so that hee went out at a back-doores, pissing oyle, of the which he had enought of his Garments, to maintaine the Lampe of our Lady of Distresses a moneth and more. All the Officers remained drenched in Oyle, cursing him that had brought them thither, and me also: for they said, I was the Baud, and for such a one should bee punished. They came out of the Cellar, as Fritters out of a Frying-panne, leaving a tract wheresoever they passed. They were so angry, that they vowed to God and the foure Evangelists, to hang all those that they found; which made us prisoners to stinke

sinke for feare. They went to Corne and Meale roomes to seeke out the rest ; and being there, from above through a trap-doore was a Sack of Meale powred upon them; wherewith they were all blinded, and cryed out, Violence to the Kings Officers : and if they thought to open their eyes, they were instantly closed up with water and Meale. Those that had the keeping of us, left us to goe helpe the Commissary. that roared out like a mad-man. But they were scarce entered, when their eyes also were filled with Meale and Water : so that they went up and downe, as if they had beene playing at Blindman-buffe; and meeting one another in this manner, did enterchange such Cuffes and Blowes, that they brake one anothers Chops, and Teeth. When wee saw them in such disorder, wee came in upon them, and

and they upon themselves with such might, that being weary, and out of breath, they fell to the ground, where blowes and spurnes fell upon them as thick as hayle, untill they were as still as if they had beene dead: for if any one did but open his mouth to grunt never so little, hee had it straightwayes filled with meale, and crammed like a Capon. Wee bound them hand and foot, and carryed them into the Cellar, and threw them into the Oyle, like Fishes to bee fryed, where they wallowed like Hogges in the myre. Then did wee shut up all the doores, every one returning to his owne house. The owner of the House, where these Reakes were played (who was gone into the Countrey) comming home presently after, and finding the doores fast, and that no body did answer (by reason that a Neece of his,

his, to whom hee had incharged his house, which shee had lent for that meeting, was gone home to her Fathers, for feare of her Unckle) hee caused the doores to be broken open. But when he found his house all strewed with Meale, and bedawbed with oyle, he was so vexed, that hee tooke on as if hee had beene drunke: then hee went into his Cellar, where hee found all the Oyle spilt, and the Officers tumbling in it. With rage & madnesse to see his goods spoiled after this manner, hee tooke a great Cudgell, and gave the Commissary and the Sergeants so many blowes, that he left them for halfe dead: then calling his neighbours to his aide, they carried them into the street, where the boyes fell a throwing mud, durt, and Shoo-clouts upon them; for they were so full of Meale, that no body could know them. When they came againe to themselves, and perceived

ceived they were in the Street, and unbound, they presently rose up, and betooke themselves to their heeles; so that one might very well then have said, Stop the Constable. They left behind them their Cloakes, Swords, and Daggers; not daring to returne againe for them, that nobody might know the Businesse. The master of the house tooke possession of all, in recompence of the losse hee had sustained. When I wēt out of the house, to goe my way, I met with a Cloake that was none of the worst, which I tooke up, and left mine in stead of it. I gave God thanks, that I came off so well in that dayes adventure; which was a new world to mee, who was wont alwayes to goe by the worst. I went to the Taylors Wives House, where I found a great hurly-burly, & the Taylor taking measure of his Wives ribs with a good Cudgell, because she was come home alone, without

out Veyle or Pattens, running through the streets with more than an hundred Boyes at her taylor. I came in good time : for as soone as the Taylor saw mee, hee left his Wife, and fell upon my back, giving mee a blow with his fist over the face, wherewith hee struck out those few Teeth that I had left mee, and some tenne or twelve spurnes in the guts, that made mee cast up againe that little which I had eaten. What, (said hee) infamous Baud, are you not ashamed to come to my house ? You shall surely now pay your old and new Score both at once : and calling unto his Servants to bring forth a Blanket, they put mee into it, and tossed mee at their pleasures, and my great griefe, leaving me for dead ; and in that case they laid mee upon a Bench, being already night. When I came againe to my selfe, and thought to have stirred,

stirred, I fell to the ground, and with the fall, I brake one of my Armes. The day beeing come, by little and by little I crawled unto a Church Gate: Where, with a pitefull voice, I craved the charitable Almes of such persons as went in and out.

CHAP. XV.

*How Lazaro made himselfe
an Hermite.*

Lying at the Church Doore, and making a collection of my former life ; I considered all the misfortunes that I had passed, from the day that I began to serve the Blind man, untill the present instant : And all Reckonings made up, I found, that rising early, did not bring on the day faster, nor continuall toyle make a man alwayes rich ; but as the Song saith :

The

The pursuit of the History

*The early riser doth not thrive
Sowell as hee whom God doth drive.*

To him I recommended my selfe, that the end might prove better than either the beginning or the middle had beene. It was my chance to be close to a venerable and white-bearded Hermite, having a Staffe and Beades in his hand, at the end whereof did hang a Deaths-head, of the bignesse of a Conies. This good Father seeing mee distressed, with kind and milde speeches began to comfort me, asking mee from whence I was, and what chances had brought me to this estate? I, in few and compendious termes, gave him to understand the long and large extent of my bitter & painfull Pilgrimage. Hee was amazed to heare mee, and mooved with piety and pittie towards mee, hee invited mee home to his Hermitage. I accepted of his offer, and as well as I could

of Lazario de Tormes.

could (which was with no little paine)
we came to the Oratory, which was two
miles from thence in a Rocke ; close
to the which there was a Châber with
a hollownesse in one of the walls,
where his bed stood. Within the
Yard was a Cistern with fresh wauer,
wherewith he watred a garden, more
curious and neat, than vaste and spa-
cious. Here (said the good old man)
have I lived these twenty yeeres, free
from the jarring and unquiernesse of
the World : this is (my Brother) the
earthly Paradise. Here do I contem-
plate both divine & humane matters:
here, doe I fast when I am filled, and
eat when I am hungry : here doe I
watch, when I cannot sleepe ; and
sleepe, when I am weary of watching.
Here am I solitary, when I want cō-
pany ; and am accompanied, when I
am not alone. Here doe I sing, when
I am merry ; and weepe, when I am
sad,

sad, Here doe I work, when I am not idle ; and am idle, when I doe not work. Here doe I think upon my bad life that is passed ; and consider the good one that is present. Heere, lastly, it is where all things are unknown; and where the knowledge of all things is attained. It did mee good at the heart to heare the merrily disposed Hermite : And therefore I desired him to give me some notion of the Hermiticall life, for it seemed to mee the Quintessence of all others. It is by so much the best (answered hee) that hee onely can tell who hath made tryall of it : but wee cannot now have leysure to discourse any farther upon it, by reason that it is dinner time. I intreated him to give mee some remedie for my arme, which was very sore. Hee did it with such ease and facility, as from thence forwards it pained me

mee no more. Wee did eat like Kings, and dranke like *Germans*. Dinner being ended, in the midst of our Noone-sleepe, the good Hermite beganne to cry out, I dye, I dye. I presently arose, and found him ready to give up the Ghost. Seeing him in this case, I asked him if hee was dying ; hee answered mee, I, I, I : and onely repeating I, dyed within an houre after. I found my self in a peck of troubles ; considering, that if the man did dye without witnesses, one might say, that I had killed him, and so it would cost mee my life, which till then with so much adoe I had preserved ; and that few witnesses would serve to convince me of the Fact, by reason that my Garbe and Fashion would make me be taken rather for a Robber upon the highwayes, than for a man of worship. I came instantly out

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of the cell, to see if I could find thereabouts any body, to be a witnesse of that death and looking on every side, I perceived a flock of sheepe not far from thence, towards the which I went in all haste (though not without pain, feeling the Taylor still upon my bones) where I found six or seven shepheards, & foure or five shepheardesses, under the shade of certaine willowes, neere adjoyning to a delighfull & cleare Spring. The Shepheards did pipe, the Shepheardesses did sing; some capered, & others danced: one held a Wench by the hand, another slept in another wenchs lap, Briefely, they all passed away the heat of the day in Love-games, and pleasant discourses. I came unto the panting & out of breath, desiring them, that without any stay they would come with me, for the Hermite lay a dying. Some of them followed mee,

leaving

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

leaving the rest to keepe their flocks. Being eered into the Hermitage, they asked the good Hermite, whether he did mean to die? who answered them, I, (but he lyed, for he had no mind to it, but was forced to it against his wil.) When I saw that he persisted still in one & the same note, answering I, to all questions; I asked him, if hee intended that those Shepheards should be his executors? he said, I. I asked him, if he did not make me his sole & lawfull heire? he answered, I. I went on asking him, if he did not acknowledge & confesse, that whatsoever he did or might possesse, was due unto mee, both for my good & acceptable services, as for divers thing which he had received of me? he againe said I. which I, I wished might have bin the last accent of his life. But as I perceived, that there was yet some breath in his body (fearing lest he should be-

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(to w^{ch} it to my losse & damage) I w^{er} on still with my dem^{ands}, causing one of the Shepherds to note downe all that he said: which the Shepherd did with a Coale against the wall, because he had neither Pen nor Inckhorne. I asked him, If he was not content, that Shepherd should signe and subscribe for him unto his will, since he himself was unable to do it? he answered I, I, I, and thereupon dyed. We took order for his buriall, making a grave for him in his Garden, with the greatest speed that might bee, for the feare that I had lest hee should rise againe. I desired the Shepherds to take part of a Collation ; but they thanked me, by reason that it was already time to drive forth their Cattell for to feed : and so they departed. saying, they were very heavy for my losse. I locked fast the doore of the Cell, & ransacked instantly every corner.

I

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

I found a great Earthen Vessell full of good wine, and another of Oyle ; two Pots of honey, two sides of Bacon, much powdred Meate, and some dried Fruits; all which did please mee very well, but yet it was not that w^{ch} I did seek. I found his Chests full of linnen; and in a corner of one of them, a Womans garment. Although that made mee wonder, yet I wondred more that a man to providēt & thrifty as hee was, should be without Money. I was in mind to goe to his Grave, and aske him where he had put it; and me thought, that having asked him, hee made mee this answer : Thou foole, dost thou thinke, that living in this unneighbourd and solitarie place, at the mercy of every Rogue and Theefe, I was to keepe within a Trunke (in danger of losing it) that which I loved and esteemed more than my life? This inspiratiō (as

Y 4

if

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if really I had received it from his mouth) made mee seek in every corner: but finding nothing, I considered with my selfe, that if I were to hide Money in such a place as no body might find it, where would I put it? I said, within yonder Altar, to the which I went instantly, and lifting up the Cloth that hung before it, at one side of it, being all of Brick. I perceived a Chinke wide enough only to put through a Ryall of eight. My blood began to rise, and my hart to pant. I tooke a Pick-axe, and in lesse than two blowes, I threw halfe the altar to the ground, and discovered the Reliques that were there intombed. I found a pot of Money, w^{ch} I told out, and found the sum to be six hundred ryals. The joy and content that I received was so great, that I had like to have died. I took it frō thence, & digged an hole without the Hermitage, where

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

where I buried it, that (if I were driven from thence) I might finde without, that which I so highly and dearly cherished. That done, I clothed my selfe in the Hermits weeds, & went to the City, to give notice to the Prior of the Society, of what was passed; not forgetting before I went, to mend up againe the Altar as it was before. It was my fortune to meet all the Brethren together, of whom the Hermitage did depend, which was consecrated to Saint *Lazaro*; whence I gathered a good prognostick for my selfe: who when they saw me already gray-headed, & of an exemplary aspect (w^{ch} is most requisite for such Professions) although they found one difficulty, w^{ch} was, that I had no beard (because it was not yet growne againe, having shaved it not long before) yet notwithstanding, seeing (by the report of the Shepheards) that the deceased had made

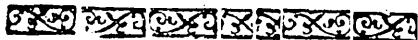
made me his heire, they gave me the hold and possession of the Hermitage. But now I speake of beards, I remember what a certain Frier did once tell me, w^{ch} was, that in their order & in others of the most reformed sort, they never make any Superiour, unlesse he be well furnished with beard : by meanes whereof it commerth to passe, that many who are sufficiēt & capable to exercise that charge, are excluded, others preferred to the same, though unworthy, so that their chin bee well stored with downe : as if to rule and governe well, did rather depend of haire, than of a good & ripe understanding. The Brothers admonished me to live according to the example and good reputation of my predecesfour, which was such, as every one held him for a Saint. I told them, that I would shew my selfe a *Hercules*. They warned me likewise, that I should

should not beg but upon Tuesdayes and Saturdayes, because if I did otherwise, the Fryers would punish mee. I promised them to fulfill in all points what they should ordaine me (& the rather, because I had no great minde to come into their clutches, having already tried of what mettle their hands were made.) I began then to begge from doore to doore, with a low humble and devout tone (as I had learned in the Blind mans schoole) & that not for any need, but because it is a use & custome amōg beggers, who the more they have, the more they desire, & with more gust. The folkes that did heare me say, Pray bestow something towards the lamp of the good Saint *Lazaro*, and did not know the voice, came out to the Doore, and seeing me, did wonder much, & asked mee where the Father *Anselmo* was? (for so was the good old man called)

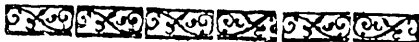
led) I told them that he was departed this World. The one said, Now God be with him, and give him good rest, that was so good a man. The others, May his blessed Soule enjoy celestiaall happinesse. Some said, Blessed bee hee that led such a life; for in fixe yeeres hee hath not eaten any hot meat whatsoeuer. Others said Hee tasted with Bread and Water. Some foolish & superstitious women would kaele downe and call upon the Father *Anselmo*. One asked mee what I had done with his habit. I told her that it was the same that I did weare. She (without saying what she would have) pulled out her Sizars, & began to cut off a peece of that she could first lay hold on, which was just before my fore-parts; whereupon I began to cry out, fearing shee would have gelded mee. But she seeing me so dismayd, said, Feare not brother,

ther, for I will not be without a relique of that blessed man, but I will pay for the dammage done to your garment. Ah (said some) without doubt before fixe months he at an end, hee will be canonized, for hee hath done many miracles. There came so many to see his sepulchre, that the house was alwayes full; wherefore I thought it fit to bring him forth under a Penthouse before the hermitage: and from thence forward, I begd no more for Saint *Lazarus* Lamp, but for that of the Blessed *Anselmo*. I could never yet understand that manner of begging, Give to the Lampe, or for to light the Saints. But I will not harpe too much upon that string, for it will jar in the eares of those, who with the Saints oyle, do maintain the lamps of their stomacks. I cared

red not much to goe to the City, having within the Cell what I desired, yet lest they should say I was rich, and therefore I did not beg, I went thither the day following, where befell me that which you may read in the next Chapter.



CHAP.



CHAP. XVI.

*How Lazaro would haue
married againe.*



Ood lucke is better than a patrimony ; to an unfortunate man, a Hog is no better than a Dogge. Wee see oftentimes many men spring from the slime of the earth, and without knowing how they finde themselves rich, honoured, feared, and esteemed. If you aske, Is that man learned ? one will answer you, As an Ass. Is he wise ; As a Wood-cock. Hath hee any good qualities ? As many as a Carman.

man. From whence then cometh to him all his wealth? One will tell you, From Fortune. And contrariwise, many that are discrete, wife, prudent, full of a thousand perfections, and fit to rule a kingdom, doe see themselves needy, scorned, dejected, and made the Dish-Clouts of the world. If you demand the reason hereof: One will answer you, A crosse Fortune doth pursue them. The same (as I think) pursued and persecuted mee, giving in mee an instance unto the world of what shee is able to doe; for since the foundation of it, no man hath beene so tossed by that unfortunate Fortune. But to follow my discourse. I went through a street begging (as I was wont) for the good Saint *Lazaro*; (for I durst not begge within the City for the blessed *Anselmo*, that was onely

onely for Idiots and superstitious women that came to rubbe their Beades upon his sepulcher, where according to their sayings, many miracles were done.) And coming to a doore, and doing there as at others, I heard some body call mee from the staires head, saying, Come up, farther, come up: What meane you to be so strange? I went up, and upon the midst of the staires, (which were somewhat darke) certaine women met mee. The one hung about my neck, the others tooke mee by the hands, diving with theirs into my pockets. All of them asked mee, why they had not seene mee these eight dayes? But when wee were come up to the staires head, and that by the light of the windowes they saw mee, they were all amazed, and looked one upon another, as if they had

Z beene

beene Matachines ; and in the end
brake out into such laughter, that
one would have thought they did
it for a Wager, none of them be-
ing able to utter one word. The
first that spake, was a little Boy,
that said, This is not my Daddy.
But when this flux of Laughter
was somewhat over, the Women
(who were foure) asked mee for
whom I begged ? I told them, for
Saint *Lazaro*. For Saint *Lazaro* ?
said they. Why, is not the Fa-
ther *Anselmo* well ? Well ? (answe-
red I) yes sure, hee complaineth
of nothing ; for he dyed eight
dayes agoe. When they heard
this, they fell all a roaring ; and
if their Laughing had beene be-
fore great, their Wayling was
now greater. Some cryed ; o-
thers pulled themselves by the
hayres ; all of them together
made

made such a jarring Musique,
that a Quire of hoarse Nunnnes
could scarce make a worse One.
said, What shall become of mee,
Wretch that I am, without an
Husband, without Defence, and
without Counsell ? Whither shall
I goe ? Who shall maintaine me ?
O heavy newes ! What mis-
chance is this ? Another brake
out thus : My deare Sonne in
Law, and Master ! How have
you forsaken us, without bidding
us farewell ? O my poore little
Children, now Orphants, and com-
fortlesse, where is your good Fa-
ther ? The little Brats held the
superius of that untuned Musique.
Every one wept, every one rooke
on ; there was nothing but sobb,
nothing but Waylings. But,
when the Waters of that great
Deluge grew somewhat towards

The pursuit of the History

an Ebbe, they asked and enquired of mee, how, and of what Disease hee dyed. I told it them; as also the Will which hee made, leaving and ordaining mee for his lawfull heyre and successor. There was the blow. It was there that teares were turned into fury, sobs unto blasphemies, and waylings into threatnings. You are some Theefe that have murdered him, to rob him; but you shall not bragge of it (said the yongest) for that Hermite was my husband, and these three children are his: and unless you doe give us all his goods, and restore unto me a garment that I lent him to disguise himselfe upon Shrove-Tuesday, wee will make you to be hanged: and if Iustice be denied, there are Swords and Pistols in the world, wherewith to make you lose a thousand lives,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

lives, if so many you had. I told them that I had sufficient witnesses, before whom hee had made his Will. These are all trickes and gulleries (said they) for the same day that you say hee dyed, hee was here, and told us, that hee had no company. After I had considered with my selfe, that the Will had not beene made under the hands of Notaries, and that those women did threaten mee; for the experience that I had of Law, and Suits, I determined to speake them faire, to try if by that meanes I might compasse that which by Law I was assured to lose: as also, for that the teares of the young Widdow had penetrated to the interior parts of my heart. And so I desired them to be quiet, telling them, that they should lose nothing by mee; and that if I had accepted to be his heire, it was onely because I

thought that the deceased was no married man, having never heard before that Hermits were married. They (all sadnesse and melancholy being cast off) began to laugh, saying, That they saw well that I was a Novice, and little experimented in that Office, since I knew not, that when an hermite is termed solitary, it is meant that hee is to bee sequestred from the company and society of men, and not of Women; for there is not any, but hath one at the least, with whom hee may passe in exercises of action, the vacant time, from those of speculation; imitating in that your holy Predecessors : and so much the more, by reason that they are persons that are better informed of the Will of God, who hath ordained, that man should not be alone, and therefore they, like dutifull and obedient children

dren have each of them one or two wives, whom they maintaine, though it bee even of almes; and particularly, the unhappy Wretch that is dead, who nourished and kept foure, that poore Widdow, and I that am her Mother, and those two her sisters, besides those three Infants that are his children, or at least that hee held for such. Then she, whom they said to be his wife, said, that shee would not bee called the Widdow of that old rotten carkasse, that had not remembered her at his death; and that shee would be sworne, that those children were none of his, and that from that time shee did annull and breake all contracts of Matrimony made betweene them. I then asked her, what the contents of that contract were? The Mother replied, saying: The matrimoniall covenants that I made, when I married my daughter

The pursuit of the History

daughter with that ungratefull man were these that follow ; which, that you may the better understand, I must of necessity beginne farther off. I lived heretofore in a Towne called *Duenas*, some 12. mes hence, having only remaining these three daughters, of three sundry fathers, who (to the neereſt conjecture) were a Monke, an Abor, and a Priest, for I have been alwayes much devoted unto the Church. But at length I came to dwell in this City, to eschew the rumours which are frequent in such little places ; for every one termed mee the Ecclesiasticall Widdow, by reason that (to my griefe) all three of them were dead. And though others presently did supply their places, they were men of little gaine, and of lesse authority ; who not contenting themselves with the Mother, laid snares

to

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

to entrap the young ones : which to prevent, seeing the danger eminent and that the gaine was not sufficient to maintaine us, here I pitched, and began to set up. At the report of the three wenches, suitors came as thicke as Gnats to the Wine-tap ; but to none of them all did I ever incline so much as to Churchmen, being persons that are secret, rich, thrifty, and patient. Now among others, the Hermite of *S. Lazaro* came a begging, and seeing this Maid, fell in love with her, and in holinesse and simplicity did desire her of mee for his Wife. I clapped up the Match upon these Articles and Conditions that I will tell you. First, hee obliged himselfe to feed our whole household ; and what wee our selves could earne, should bee to apparell us, and to put up. Secondly, that if at any time my daughter did admit

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admit any Coadjutor, (hee being somewhat old and crasie) hee should not make any words of it. Thirdly, that hee should hold and esteeme as his owne, all the Children that shee should beare, to whom from that instant hee assured all whatsoever hee did or might possesse; and that comming to passe that my daughter should bee without issue, hee did make her his sole and lawfull heire. Fourthly, that hee was not to come into our house, when hee should see a Larre, Pot, or other Vessell at the Window; a token, that then there was no roome for him. Fifthly, that if, hee being in the house, any other did come, hee was then to hide himselfe where wee should bid him, untill the other were departed. Sixtly and lastly, that hee should be a mediator, to bring hither twice every week some friend or acquaintance
of

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of his, to make merry with us at their owne charges. These are (said she) the conditions, upon the which that Wretch betrothed himselfe to my Daughter, and shee to him. The marriage was made and ended, without either Priest or Curate; for hee told mee that it was needlesse, since the essence thereof did consist only in conformity of mindes and mutuall intentions. I was amazed at the speeches of that other *Celsina*, and at the articles of her daughters marriage: I was perplext, not knowing what to say, untill they opened a passage to my desires: for the yong widdow fell about my neck, saying, If that unhappy man had had this Angels face, how much should I have loved him? and with that, she kissed mee. After this kisse, there entered into me I know not what, that began to set me a fire; so that without

out any delay, or farther discourse, I told her, That if she were minded to forsake her Widdow-hood, and receive mee as her owne, I would not onely keepe and fulfill my Predecessors Covenants, but all others whatsoever that they would adde. They were well pleased with that, and said, That they onely desired, that I should put into their hands all that which was in the hermitage, and that they would keepe it. I promised them so to doe, but with intent to conceale the Money for a need. The concluding of the Match was referred unto the next day ; and that afternoone they sent a Cart to the Cell, wherein they carried away all, even to the ashes, not forbearing so much as the Altar-cloth, or the Saints Garments. I was so love-nettled, that if they had asked me the *phoenix*, or Water

Water out of the *Stygian Lake*, I would have given it them. They left mee nothing but a poore Straw-bed, whereon I might cast my selfe like a Dogge. When the good Lady, my future Wife (who came with the Cart) saw that there was no Money, shee was angry (for the old man had told her that hee had some, but not where) and asked me if I did not know where the Treasure lay ? I told her, No. She, crafty and subtile as shee was, tooke mee by the hand, that wee might goe seek it together, and carried me into every hole and corner of the hermitage. As wee went about the Altar, shee perceived the side of the Wall which was newly made up, whereupon shee entred into suspicion of mee. And therefore imbracing and kissing mee, she said unto mee, I pray thee, my Love, tell mee where the money

money is, that wee may make a merry Wedding with it. I still denyed that I knew of any. Then shee taking mee againe by the hand, made mee walke out round about the hermitage, still looking me in the Face, and when wee came to the place where I had hid the Money, my eyes were instantly towards it. Shee, who all this while watched but for that action, called straightwayes to her Mother, bidding her seek under a Stone that I had laid there; which shee doing, met with the Money, and I with my death. But shee dissembled, saying, Looke here, wee will live a merry life with this. Then shewing me all manner of kindnesse, they presently (because it grew late) retired to the Citie, and left mee untill the next morning, that I was to goe to their house, where we should make the merriest Wedding that ever

ever was seene. God grant it (said I to my selfe.) All that night I ballanced betweene hope and feare, lest those Women should deceive mee, although it seemed unpossible unto mee, that a false heart should lurke under so good a face; for, as the *Biskey* said, If thy face be good, thy actions will be answerable. That night was a yeere to mee. It was yet scarce day, when as locking up my hermitage, I went to be married, as if that had been but a slight matter; not remembering that *Elvira* was my wife. I came to the house at their rising; where they received mee with such joy, that I accounted my selfe a happy man, and all feare laid aside, I began to ordaine and command as in mine owne house. Wee made such good cheere, and with such content, that I thought I was in a Paradise: Wee wanted not company, for they had

had invited five or six Women of their friends. After dinner, we fell to dancing ; and though I was altogether ignorant therein, they forced mee to doe the like. It was the best sport in the world to see mee hobble up and downe in my hermits attire. But night being come, after a good supper, and better drinking, they carried mee into a faire chamber, where there was a good bed, and bade mee make my selfe unready, and go to bed first, whilst my bride was undressing. I did so, though contrary to the fashion of my country, where the woman hath that prerogative. A maid was left to helpe mee off with my Stockings, who told mee, that I must put off my shirt, for it was requisite that for some ceremonies that were yet to be performed, I shou'd be starke naked. I obeyed her : but I was no sooner in the Bed, but all the Women,

men, and my Bride among them, rushed into the Chamber ; and the first thing they did, two of them tooke mee by the feet, and two by the armes, and tied instantly 4. cords about them, wherewith they bound mee to the foure Bed-posts, leaving mee stretched like a S. *Andrew* upon a Crosse ; whereupon they all fell a laughing like mad folks, and I a roaring like a Bull. But they told mee, unlesse I held my peace, that I was a dead man. Then they took a great Basin of hot water, wherein they popped my head. I burned my selfe, and which was worse, if I thought to cry out, they so belaced mee with stripes, that I was constrained to let them do their pleasure. They scalded off my beard, haire, eye-browes, and eye-lids, saying, A little more patience, and the ceremonies will be ended, and you shall enjoy your desire.

I intreated them to let mee goe, for my itch of marrying was now cooled. But one of the boldest of them, drawing out a knife, said to the others, Hold him fast, and I will geld him a little, that his mortified flesh may not another time bee tempted to copulation. The holy hermite beleevd (I thinke) that all wee told him had bene Gospell, but yfaith it was not, nor Epistle neither. Hee would trust to women; hee shall see now what will come on't. When I saw my precious stones in such danger, I strugled in such manner, as I brake one of the cords, and withall one of the Bed-posts; being animated by a desire that I had, to keepe my Bells for a Morris-dance. They seeing what I had done, for feare lest I should breake all the Bed, unbound me, and putting me in a sheet, they tossed mee so long, that they

left

left mee for dead. These are, said they, Sir, the ceremonies wherewith our Wedding begins; if it please you to come againe to morrow, wee will make an end of the rest: and with that, foure of them tooke mee up, and carried mee a good way from their house, and laid mee in the midst of the street; where the day found mee, and the Boyes began to run after mee, and do mee a great deale of mischief: so that, to avoid them, I ranne into a Church, close to the high Altar, where they were at Masse. When the Priests saw such a sight, which questionlesse resembled the devill that Painters use to lay under *S. Michaels* feet; they all ran away, and I among them, to free my selfe from the misdemeanors of those Devils incarnate. The people that were in the Church, cried out, some, Take heed of the Devill; o-

thers

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thers, Beware of the Mad-man. I cryed out as well as they, that I was neither Devill nor Mad-man, but onely a poore fellow, whom God for my sinnes had visited with that miserie. When they perceived, that I was not what they tooke mee to be, they all were quieted ; the Priests returned back againe, to make an end of their Masse ; and the Sexton gave mee the Cloth of a Tombe, to wrap my selfe in. I went into a corner, where I considered the crosses of Fortune, and how on every side man is beset with miserie, and therefore I determined to abide in that Church and there end my dayes (which, in regard of my former woes, could not be very long) and save the Priests a labour of fetching me elsewhere, after my death. This is in summe (courteous Reader) the second Part of the life of *Lazarillo* ; without either adding

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ding or diminishing, but even as I have heard my great Grandmother tell it. If thou doest like it, expect the third Part, which shall no lesse delight thee.

F I N I S.
